

VOL. 7, NO. 43.

CONNELLVILLE, PA., WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 30, 1908.

EIGHT PAGES.

**ALLEGED CHIEF OF ROBBER GANG
COMMITTS SUICIDE IN OLD HOUSE.****George Booher Found Hanging to a Rafter About a Mile
from His Home in Bullskin Township This Morning.****HAD BEEN DEAD MANY HOURS.**

Believed That the Diaprag Attached to His Arrest for Complicity in the Wholesale Bullskin Township Robberies Caused Him to Commit Deed.

Hanging stiff and cold from an old beam in an abandoned house near his home above Dutwiler's Mills, the body of George Booher, of Bullskin township, was found this morning by a party of relatives who had been searching for him since yesterday. It is believed that the dead man's impulsion with the many robberies of stores and homes in Bullskin township is responsible for the rash deed. Recently Booher was arrested on the confession of Edward Michaels implicating him with a gang of robbers who are charged with plundering many places in the township, and was released on \$2,500 bail. Coincidentally with the suicide one of the men arrested almost two weeks ago as being a member of the gang was released on \$1,000 bail by Squire John C. Brownfield at Scottsdale this morning.

The man who secured bail at Scottsdale this morning was George Clark, Charles Schultz placing a surety of \$1,400 for him. Alex Wilson, who was also accused is now out on a bail piece of \$1,000 and another man of the same name was released shortly after the hearing. Edward Michaels who gave the officers the information is now confined in the county jail, unable to secure bail.

Hardly had Clark secured his release this morning until the news spread that Booher was supposed to have been the leader of the gang had committed suicide. Booher left his home Monday afternoon and when he did not return on Monday night his family became anxious about him. Tuesday evening came and he did not return home and this morning the search was started in earnest. It did not continue long for he was soon found hanging by a rope in an old abandoned building about a mile from his home. He had been dead for many hours. The body was cut down and removed to his home.

Booher was about 49 years old and was a son of the late Christopher Booher a native of Bullskin township. He was a carpenter by trade and followed his occupation in the township, where he was regarded as a competent workman and an honest man. He lived for many years in the Clark settlement between Dutwiler's and Gilmere's mills and there was never any suspicion as to his uprightness until the robbery of stores began floating about implicating him. The suspicion continued to grow, resulting in great vigilance and efforts to catch the thieves.

**PRINCESS DE SAGAN
GIVEN HER CHILDREN.****Court Decides Against Count Bond De Castellane And She Gets The Boys.**

United Press Telegram.
PARIS, Dec. 30.—Count Bond de Castellane's suit against his former wife, Princess de Sagan, for the custody of their children was decided today adversely to the plaintiff. Princess de Sagan, formerly Anna Gould, retained the custody of her three boys. Prior to the last hearing Bond withdrew his money demand for the children's support and made a plea solely for their custody. This move was expected to strengthen his case materially but it was apparent at the close of the last hearing in court that it would decide against him.

Cold Wave Coming.
Threatening with rain or snow tonight. Thursday partly cloudy and decidedly colder. The noon weather record.

Another High School.

SMITHFIELD, Dec. 30.—The High School idea has taken hold of the Smithfield School Board and they are now making an effort to have one built and conducted at this place. The subject has often been discussed and the general opinion is that Smithfield would be an ideal spot to locate an institution of learning of that kind.

**ANOTHER MEETING
AT S. CONNELLVILLE.****Residents There Talk Over Incorporation Again and Appoint More Committees.**

A second meeting was held at South Connellville last night for the purpose of giving a boost to the incorporation of that place as a borough. The matter was thoroughly discussed and there were no dissenting voices to the proposition. Quite a number of the incorporation advocates resented the imputation that the movement was fostered principally by those possessed of a lust for office. The meeting last night was larger than the first one.

A committee was appointed to employ a solicitor and civil engineer. A petition will be prepared for immediate circulation while the engineer will be directed to lay out a plot of the proposed borough.

Those reported to be opposed to the movement either kept quiet or were not in attendance for there were no arguments against the proposition.

**\$1,000,000 COAL
DEAL UNDER WAY.**

George Mingo, Representing Pittsburgh Capitalists, Negotiating for 1,800 Acres at Waynesburg.

WAYNESBURG, Dec. 30.—Another coal deal, aggregating nearly \$1,000,000, is being negotiated here by George Mingo of Pittsburgh, acting for capitalists of that place.

The coal which he is trying to buy lies just west of town, in Franklin and Center townships, and has never before been transferred. The owners were asked by Mingo to give him a 15 or 30 day option at \$300 per acre but they unanimously refused this offer. He then asked them to name a price and \$500 per acre was their answer.

He has the matter still under consideration and many think that this price will be paid, as the coal is very valuable. The owners and their acreage are as follows: W. H. Morris, 160 acres; S. W. Scott, 500 acres; D. S. Walton, 175 acres; Albert Adams, 100 acres; Jonathan Funk, 65 acres; T. J. Wisecarver, 500 acres; Harry Sayers, 304 acres.

The total acreage is 1,890 and is the deal goes through the amount involved will be \$945,000. S. W. Scott and T. J. Wisecarver, the largest land holders, are acting for the entire block represented.

Big Increase in Values.
An increase of a million dollars in the assessed value of Williamstown property will be reported by the city assessors, who will complete their work this week. The advance is due largely to the fact that public improvements have been made in nearly every ward. The valuation will approach fifteen millions of dollars.

To Recover Horses.
UNIONTOWN, Dec. 30.—A writ of replevin was issued today for M. J. Cummings against James Brown to recover two horses, a set of harness and a wagon which Brown purchased and never, it is alleged, paid for.

Making Good Time.
Baltimore & Ohio railroad men say traffic is heavy and good time is being made.

**MOST APPALLING DISASTER SINCE
DAYS OF THE DESTRUCTION OF JEDDO.****Believed That Fully 100,000 Have Perished and That as Many More Will Suffer an Even
Worse Fate—Disaster Grows With Each Passing Hour and Suffering Is Terrible.**

United Press Telegram.
ROME, Dec. 30.—While there is no way yet of arriving at any more than an approximate estimate of the dead in Sicily and Calabria, it is evident that the disaster is the greatest in the world's history since little more than 200 years ago, when the earth and sea conspired to crush out the lives of 200,000 little brown men of Jeddo, now Tokio.

The public here after comparing various and confusing reports has settled down to the belief that fully 100,000 were killed by the quake, tidal wave and subsequent disaster. It is believed that thousands more are doomed to die more terrible deaths in the chaos now engulfing many towns on both sides of the straits and in the interior.

Messages were received today from warships at Messina, saying rescuers were utterly swamped and it would require several days to effect an adequate relief system. Food, medicine and clothing have already broken out at Messina and the same danger undoubtedly threatens other towns.

Grave anxiety is felt as to whether the authorities will be able to keep the survivors from starving. In many places food supplies have been completely destroyed and it will be several days before supplies will be able to reach some of the points.

The highest hopes of relief through Sicily and Calabria have been anything like official stamp is the statement this afternoon by the government that possibly 100,000 people were killed. It is reported that all survivors are being taken to the straits to receive a true basis for comparison. Soldiers and bullets have failed to awe looters and they continue to prey upon and murder helpless survivors. Deputies are arriving in Rome today for a special session of parliament to vote relief measures for the sufferers.

The Pope is prostrated and insists his place is with the sufferers. Were it not for a positive warning from his doctors he would leave the Vatican at once. The suffering grows more intense every hour.

After hovering between life and death for almost four months, a slight change for the worse has been noted in the condition of Giuseppe Malumka at the Cottage State hospital. Malumka was shot on the evening of September 10, 1907, during the progress of a dance in the Italian hall, New Haven.

The injured man was hurriedly removed to the Cottage State hospital where his wounds were attended to. For nearly three months not the slightest change was noted in Malumka's condition. His recovery is still impossible. He is still paralyzed but has remained conscious during his stay at the hospital.

After an illness of about ten days Joseph I. Sedersky, aged about 46 years, and one of the most prominent and widely known business men of Connellville, died this morning at 9 o'clock at Montefiore hospital, Pittsburgh. Mr. Sedersky was taken ill on Saturday, December 19. He was removed to Montefiore hospital the following Tuesday and Wednesday a week ago underwent an operation for appendicitis. The operation was successful but other complications which followed resulted in his death. The body will be brought to Connellville either this evening or tomorrow morning and removed to his home No. 413 East Green street where it will likely be kept for two days. The interment will take place in Pittsburgh. Definite arrangements have not yet been made.

Mr. Sedersky was born in Maritz, Poland Russia. He came to Connellville over 25 years ago and for several years was employed by D. W. Morgan, agent for the Singer Sewing Machine Company. Mr. Morgan moving to Wilkshaus turned over the agency to Mr. Sedersky. He then went into business for himself near Silcox's meat market on North Pittsburg street and later went into partnership with L. L. West in the building on the corner of North Pittsburg and West Peach streets. Several years ago the company dissolved partnership and Mr. Sedersky turned over the agency for the Singer Sewing Machine to Edward Loomis. Since that time he has conducted a furniture store.

Soon after coming to Connellville he married Miss Raport of Pittsburgh. No children were born to the union. Mr. Sedersky was a prominent lodge man. He was Past Chancellor in the Knights of Pythias and was a prominent member of the Odd Fellows. Mr. Sedersky was held in high esteem by all his friends. He was a man of exemplary habits, was a staunch supporter in all public movements for the welfare of Connellville. He was instrumental in securing a site for the new Jewish Synagogue and his untimely death will be learned with regret by his wide circle of friends. His wife was with him at the time of his death. He is survived by his widowed mother, and a widowed sister in New York, and two brothers, David and Harry, of Worcester, Mass.

Fine Elks Home.
Reading lodge of Elks is about completing a \$45,000 addition to its home.

**KENTUCKY MINE EXPLOSION CLAIMS LIVES
OF UPWARDS OF A HUNDRED MINERS.****Another Fatal Mining Disaster Due to an Explosion at the Branch Lick Collieries Along
the Tug River—Two Hundred Miners in the Mines.**

United Press Telegram.
MAYBURY, Ky., Dec. 30.—More than one hundred miners are now believed to be hopelessly imprisoned in a local mine of the Lick Branch Collieries Company, as a result of a terrific explosion at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. While the company positively refused to give figures on the number of men in the mine and will

permitted one to approach the colliery to rescue, it is estimated no less than 200 men were in the mine at the time of the disaster. Up until a late hour only 17 of these have been recovered, 12 of whom were dead.

At 10 o'clock this morning the officials of the mine admitted that there were 20 men now buried under the debris, all of whom it is thought are

**MALUMKA GROWS
WEAKER AT HOSPITAL.****Man Shot Four Months Ago Shows First Sign of Change Since Being Wounded.**

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Robbers Lost Bank.
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Dec. 30.—(Special).—Six masked robbers held the residents of Wallston at bay for three hours today while they thoroughly ransacked the place. They dynamited and robbed a bank and escaped with more than \$5,000. A posse is pursuing them.

American Consul Victim.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—(Special).—The following dispatch was received at the State Department from Consul W. H. Oates at Malta: "Consul Cheney and wife are both dead. Their bodies have not yet been recovered."

Sisters Make Joint Will.
UNIONTOWN, Dec. 30.—The joint will of Misses Maria L. and Alinda Larimer of Fayette City was filed for probate yesterday. James B. Larimer is the sole heir to their estate and is named executor of the document.

Davis Will Recover.
Harry H. Davis, who was struck by a Pennsylvania engine yesterday afternoon, passed a bad night but is improving. His injuries were painful but not serious.

Body Shipped Away.
The body of Earl R. Travis, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Travis of South Connellville, was shipped to Filadelfia this morning for interment.

**ITALIANS HERE
LOSE FAMILIES.****A Large Proportion of Those
in Coke Region Came From
Stricken Districts.**

It is estimated that fully one-fourth of the Italians living in this section came from the devastated regions of Italy where death and disaster had been wrought by one of the most terrible earthquakes of history. The Italian miners of Western Pennsylvania have been besieged with appeals to secure information concerning relatives who might have perished in the disaster.

Efforts have been made to secure details but so far have failed. Now the government in response to inquiries is so vast that it is impossible at this time to secure the names of any victims. It will be weeks before definite and authentic news can be learned.

Efforts are already under way to provide funds for the relief of the stricken Italians. The Charity Committee of the Chamber of Commerce will meet in the rooms of that organization at 4 o'clock this afternoon to consider ways and means of securing relief and to plan a definite scheme for the campaign. Already relief funds have been started by Banker P. Bufano and Anthony Ruckert, manager of the foreign department of the First National Bank. It is expected that all the contributions will pass into the hands of these men, to be transmitted to Italy through the Italian Consul.

There is much distress in the Italian settlements about the coke region. Not only among the laborers is there mental anguish but those of the better classes also feel friends and relatives.

Ralph Scallie, the Uniontown artist, states that his entire family, his father, mother, three sisters and a brother, lived in the heart of the devastated district and have probably perished. His response could be received from the cablegram he is now awaiting for news of them. His brother-in-law is a governor of one of the districts but he could not be communicated with.

It is expected that a large relief fund can be secured in this region and that hearty cooperation will be given by the various Italian churches and societies. This matter will be taken in hand by the Charity Committee of the Chamber of Commerce with a view to organizing the work.

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**L. H. CONKLIN RESIGNS AND
WEST PENN SHAKEUP MAY COME.****Believed That Many Changes of Officials Are Scheduled
When Vacancy Is Filled.****MR. CONKLIN GOES WAY UP.**

Leaves West Penn to Accept General Management of Scranton Electric Company—W. E. Moore May Be Returned to Connellville as Mayor.

Rumors are rife among West Penn officials located here concerning changes that are anticipated in the West Penn Electric Company. It is believed that a general shakeup of high officials is contemplated. While these rumors have hitherto seemed unfounded, they were given added impetus this morning when the resignation of General Superintendent L. H. Conklin was announced. Mr. Conklin leaves the West Penn to become General Manager of the Scranton Electric Company of Scranton, a concern which supplies electricity and steam heat for Scranton and surrounding country. The operation of the company extends from Pittston to Carbondale.

Mr. Conklin's resignation becomes effective on January 15 and will terminate a most agreeable connection with the company for nearly two years. He came to the West Penn from Waterbury, Conn., where he was connected with the engineering department of the New England Electric Company. Secured as Superintendent of Lighting, Mr. Conklin was soon promoted to General Superintendent.

At the present time General Superintendent Conklin has exclusive supervision over the electric lighting department overhead wire construction, power house and substations and other details. Many improvements have been made under his supervision. It is generally believed that another mammoth power plant is to be erected by the company along the Monongahela river.

Noting as it was to Mr. Conklin's successor, has been given out but it is understood that some shifts are contemplated.

There is a persistent rumor that Operating Manager W. E. Moore may return to Connellville and take up the active management of the company. Mr. Moore was succeeded by George R. Folds and retired to take up work as consulting engineer of the various Kuhn interests. With the resignation of General Manager Folds his position was abolished and Mr. Moore was given the title of Operating Manager. Mr. Moore is popular in Connellville and ranks high as an executive officer.

It is hardly likely that the Kuhn interests can afford to have Mr. Moore devote his entire time to the West Penn. His opinions on various other projects in which the Kuhn are interested are highly valued and he may continue as their chief consulting engineer.

In Connellville there is a strong sentiment for the promotion of Superintendent of Transportation T. W. Brown to the position of General Manager. Mr. Brown has been very successful in the operating department and it is generally believed that the higher position will be valuable to be taken from that department. It is possible, however, that Superintendent Brown may be slated to go high or up while his position would in the event be filled by either of the Division Superintendents, C. E. Fife of Uniontown or W. F. Long of Mt. Pleasant.

Until an announcement of these changes is made speculation will be rife in the offices of the company here. Mr. Conklin's resignation came as a surprise and was learned with regret. Among the officials and employees of the company here Mr. Conklin was very popular and was recognized as a most efficient electrical man.

NEW EXAMINERS.
O. W. McDonald and A. C. Hagan on Law Examining Board.

UNIONTOWN, Dec. 30.—The court this morning appointed O. W. McDonald and A. C. Hagan members of the exclusive committee of the Fayette County Law Examining Board. They succeeded George B. Jeffries and H. B. Dumbauld, whose terms expire today.

In addition to the new appointees the new board will consist of S. R. Shady, E. O. Dale Field and W. H. Marshall.

Christmas Left.
Christmas cheer had a severe jolt for William Byrstone of near Youngstown, Westmoreland county, who had \$500 stolen from his pockets or else he lost his pocketbook with that amount in it but he believes it was stolen.

Big Timber Tract.
Brownsville Man Purchases Large Acreage in West Virginia.

MORGANTOWN, Dec. 30.—A. G. Gribble of Brownsville has purchased a tract of timber land containing about 150 acres of Frank Shubert's estate. This land is situated on the Evansville pike. The sum paid for it was \$3,000.

This is the most valuable tract of timber land in that part of the country. It is thought that there will be about 800,000 feet of lumber when the trees are all sawed up. Several timber men have been trying to buy this land.

In Social Circles.

Ashe-Euwer.
The marriage of W. F. Ashe of Elizabethtown, Pa., son of Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Ashe of Connelleville and Miss Nancy Katherine Euwer of Monaca was solemnized last evening at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Euwer, in the presence of the near relatives and a few intimate friends of the young couple. The bride is a very prominent young lady in Monaca and is well known in Connelleville. Her father and family attended the wedding.

Monday evening Mrs. W. R. Allen, a sister of the groom, gave a very profitably appointed dinner at her home in Parnassus in honor of the young couple. Among the out of town guests present were Rev. and Mrs. Ashe.

Dances at Scottsdale.
Miss Florence Goldsmith, Miss Frances Fred, Miss Irene Huston, Miss Irene and Mildred Miller, Jerry Bowman, Charles Cecil, Warren Murrie, of Connelleville; Earl Porter, and Miss Roseboro of Dawson; Miss Marj Keck of Greensburg; and Clark Chisholm of Uniontown, were among the out of town guests present at a well appointed dance held in the Ellsworth park auditorium, Scottsdale, by the Cotillion Club of Scottsdale. The committee was composed of Albert Zentley and Ralph Loucks. Music was furnished by Moore's orchestra of Greensburg and a delicious buffet luncheon was served throughout the evening.

Missionary Circle Meets.
The regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Circle of the First Baptist Church was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Edna Penn on Eighth street. The meeting was largely attended and was one of interest.

Papers dealing with Foreign Missions were read by Miss Mary Snyder, Miss Jennie Herbert, Mrs. Abraham Stauffer, Miss Mary Smith and Mrs. J. W. Dixon. A very entertaining talk on mission work was given by Rev. Max Wiant. The next meeting will be held on the last Tuesday in January.

L. C. Club Meets.
The L. C. Club of New Haven was pleasantly entertained yesterday afternoon by Mrs. Kell Long at her home on First street, New Haven. All members were present with the exception of one. A feature of the meeting was an in memorial prepared by the members to the memory of the late Mrs. Catherine Daisley, a member of the club. A list of books was planned for the months of January, February and March. A dainty luncheon followed. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 26, at the home of Mrs. R. S. McKee on Main street, New Haven.

Elks Meet at Scottsdale.
An 77th anniversary meeting of Lodge No. 77, B. P. O. E., of Scottsdale was held last evening in the lodge rooms, District Deputy Elmer of Jeannette was present and the meeting throughout was one of much enjoyment. Several new members were initiated and after transacting the regular routine business an elaborate banquet was served to about 80 persons. Several impromptu addresses followed and a general good time was had by all present. Visitors were present from Connelleville and M. Pleasant lodges, Sylvester, Pa.

Sylvester services will be conducted on Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the German Lutheran St. John's Church by the pastor, Rev. George Dietz. Sermon from Revelations XXII, 21: "The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all."

On New Year's morning services and holy communion will be held at 10 o'clock. The sermon will be taken from Revelations VI, 1-8. All are cordially invited to attend these services.

Evening at Cards.
A delightful meeting of the L. C. Club was held last evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Evans on Johnston avenue. Five tables were rolled into play and at the close of the games a dainty luncheon was served. Mrs. G. C. Hyatt and Dr. G. W. Utts were awarded the dainty prizes. The next meeting will be held Thursday evening January 1, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Purinton on North Pittsburgh street.

Married in Pittsburgh.
Miss Katherine Whetzel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Whetzel of Smithfield and Dr. Lloyd Hahn, a former well known resident of Smithfield, but now located in Chicago, were married in Pittsburgh today. The bride resided in Trotter for a number of years and is well and favorably known in and about Connelleville.

Entertainment at Leisening.
The Neuman Club of St. Vincent De Paul's Roman Catholic Church of Leisening, No. 1, will give an entertainment Thursday evening in the St. Vincent De Paul's hall at Leisening, No. 1. A very entertaining program has been arranged and a cordial invitation is extended to all. No admission will be charged.

"500" Party.
Misses Mabel and Marie Benford entertained at "500" last evening at their home in Cherry Lane, Dunbar township. The guests included members of the "500" club of which the hostesses are members. Three tables were brought into play and at a late hour refreshments were served.

"500" Club Will Meet.
Mrs. James G. Laughrey will entertain the "500" club of Dawson Friday afternoon at her home at Dawson between the hours of 2:30 and 5 o'clock.

L. C. B. A. Will Entertain.
The L. C. B. A. of the Immaculate

Conception Church will hold a social gathering Thursday evening in Eagles hall. Various amusements have been planned by the committee in charge and a most enjoyable evening is looked forward to.

Attend Uniontown Dance.
Miss Helen Goldsmith, Miss Lillian Goodman, Oliver Goldsmith and Joseph Sumburg of Connelleville, were among the out of town guests present last evening at a large and enjoyable dance held by the Standard Club of Uniontown.

Congregational Meeting.
A congregational meeting of the First Presbyterian Church will be held Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the church. The meeting is the annual one and all members of the congregation are urged to be present.

Silver Thimble Club Will Meet.
Mrs. Joseph Rilling will entertain the Silver Thimble Club tomorrow afternoon at her home on Cedar avenue. The hours are from 2:30 until 5 o'clock "At Home."

Mrs. D. J. Hoover and Mrs. Roy Tetter have cards out for an "at home" Friday afternoon at the home of the former on East Main street.

Dinner This Evening.
Mrs. A. L. Solson will entertain at a dinner this evening at her home on East Main street.

THREE CANDIDATES ON REPUBLICAN TICKET.

J. L. Evans the Latest to Announce His Candidacy for Burgess of Connelleville.

Candidates for borough offices are becoming plentiful these days and this afternoon a number of additional petitions will be filed with the County Commissioners. Already a number of prospective candidates have left their papers with the Commissioners and have begun a campaign for votes at the primary next month.

Indications are that there will be a close contest for nearly every office for which there is a vacancy with the exception of Tax Collector. If any aspire to succeed George B. Brown, the present incumbent, they have maintained a discreet silence.

The Republican contest for the Burgess nomination will be a three cornered affair as three candidates have announced for that office. Charles C. Mitchell of the First Ward was an early bird and got his papers in early, while Joseph B. Kurtz of the Fourth Ward left his document far behind. Yesterday J. Louis Evans of the Second Ward left his document with the Commissioners. It bore the signatures of Charles Davidson, J. E. Sims, T. H. White, E. Dunn, Harry Dunn, J. M. McClaren, Alex B. Hood, Daniel Sinclair, J. C. Milson, F. R. Graham, Robert Norris, Lloyd Johnston, C. D. Schell and G. W. Campbell.

Close behind Evans will come the lone Democratic aspirant James W. Buttermore of the Fourth Ward, who will file his petition this afternoon. So far no other Democrat has announced his intention to contest this nomination although John Evans was a prospective candidate. It is understood that he has withdrawn in favor of Buttermore.

James C. Munson this afternoon will file his petition for Council on the Republican ticket in the Second Ward. He will likely have no opposition. The Democratic aspirants are Q. L. Fore and Thomas Brennan.

Dr. T. H. White has announced his candidacy for the School Board on the Republican ticket in the Second Ward. He has some of the most influential Republicans in the ward on his petition. It is likely he will oppose J. A. Gutter who seeks the Democratic nomination. Little credence is given the report that Robert Welsh would run for School Director again. Dr. M. B. Shupe, it is understood, will not be a candidate for reelection.

Candidates are slow filing their petitions in the Third Ward and as yet but one man has announced for Council. He is R. C. Beerbower, Supervisor of Davidson. Clear Stillwag on and William McCormick seek to succeed themselves. Beerbower, and Dr. P. N. Sherick will likely be the Republican candidates.

Hori J. Thomas will have opposition for School Director in the Fourth Ward. S. M. Goodman has announced his candidacy on the Republican ticket.

Efforts were made to persuade A. D. Solson to run for Council in the Third Ward but there was nothing doing. Burgess Solson declares he has had enough of public life, for the present at least, and declines to consider the matter in spite of the importunities of his many friends.

SABBATH ORATOR WILL TALK IN TOWN.

W. D. Stem of State Fairs To Appear in Connelleville and Brownsville.

The Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association has secured the services of W. D. Stem of Ashland, Ohio, for a month's work in this State. Arrangements have been made whereby Fayette county will have him for two meetings as follows: Brownsville, in the South Brownsville M. E. Church Wednesday, January 12, at 7:30 P. M., and at Connelleville in the Presbyterian Church Thursday January 14 at 7:30 P. M. It is earnestly desired if at all possible that no other meetings be held in the other churches of these towns on that night and that all turn out to hear Mr. Stem. No doubt many will remember that we tried to get Mr. Stem for the County Convention last June, but it was impossible to get him, and we are very fortunate in getting him for these meetings at this time. Mr. Stem has been for years the head of the Department of History in the City High School of Ashland, Ohio. He has been singularly successful in the organization of Adult Classes in the Sunday School in promoting personal evangelism among the men.

Incidentally he has brought about a federation of the organized men's classes of his city, which has exerted a tremendous influence upon the civil life of the community. Annually they hold a banquet in which 1,000 men are gathered in the interest of civic education and religion.

Mr. Stem has had one success also in bringing about the organization of women's classes, and last winter taught with conspicuous success a teacher-women's class of some 200 members.

He would not relish being called a "Pentecost," but his simple story thrills. He has done things. His is the eloquence of achievement and he never fails to interest.

Begin now to plan for the meeting and see to it that every Sunday school worker is present.

WEEK OF PRAYER HAS BEEN ARRANGED.

Services Will Be Held in Various Churches of Town Each Week of the New Year.

The Ministerial Association of Connelleville have arranged for a week of prayer, commencing Monday, January 4, and continuing until Friday evening inclusive. The services will be held in the Methodist Protestant Church representing the North End of town. Rev. David Jones, pastor, will appoint the ministers from the North End of town to conduct services during the week. Services representing the South End of town will be held in the United Brethren Church, Rev. A. L. Funk, the pastor, will appoint ministers from the South End of town to assist in conducting the services. Similar services will be held in practically all the Protestant churches in the country.

Monday morning a number of the members of the local Ministerial Association will go to Pittsburgh to attend a meeting in the Y. M. C. A. building. The meeting will be in charge of Rev. Gypsy Smith, a prominent evangelist. Rev. Smith recently closed successful meetings in Philadelphia and Washington City.

NINETEEN NINE

It is Predicted That The New Year Will Be a Prosperous One. Leading merchants and manufacturers predict that the coming year will be one of the most prosperous in the history of this country. Large contracts are being made for steel rails, for new freight and passenger cars and for coke and coal. The wheels of industry are moving all over the country. Men who have been idle for months are returning to work—renewing their acquaintance with the pay envelope. It's a good time to be alive to save money, and not be caught again during a period of business depression without cash on hand.

At the beginning of the year is a good time to make new resolutions. And a good resolution to make is this: "Resolved that I will save a part of every dollar I earn." Try it during 1909, and deposit your savings at the Citizens National Bank, Connelleville, where they will earn 4 per cent. interest.

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A Rainy Day.
A gentle little shower visited Connelleville today, but hardly sufficient rain fell to be noticeable.

LUCKY BALDWIN VETERAN-TURFMAN WHO IS VERY ILL.



E. J. "Lucky" Baldwin, the famous turfman, who is originally ill at his Arcadia ranch in California, is past 80 years of age. The ranch of "Lucky" Baldwin is one of the largest of southern California. It is within the heart of the orange district between Pasadena and Modesto, about 11 miles from Los Angeles, and may be easily reached by railroad or by trolley from that city. The ranch originally comprised 25,000 acres in the most fertile and beautiful section of the San Gabriel valley, running up to the very base of the Sierra Madre mountains.

Local and Personal Mention.

Miss Roberts, daughter of Dunbar, was calling on friends here yesterday. Miss Carrie Miller of Scottsdale was a Connelleville visitor yesterday. Miss Margaret Decker of Dunbar was shopping in town yesterday. Many people are taking advantage of the cheap sale of Artman's 14 and 16 off for ten days only.

Mrs. W. C. Smith of Dunbar, visited her daughter, Mrs. Ray Guyton, yesterday.

Mrs. John Barnhart of Scottsdale, was in town this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Selby and daughter Robert, are home from a visit in Buckingham, W. Va.

L. M. Mace is in Pittsburgh today on business.

Miss Marie Keck of Greensburg, is the guest of Miss Pearl Keck of Fairview avenue.

Miss Martha Gray of Dunbar, was the guest of Miss Emma Kate Dull yesterday.

Miss Gladys Leary returned to her home at Ohio this morning after a visit with relatives here.

Miss Ruth and Helen White of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., are here for the week.

Miss Margaret Young, who has been the guest of Mrs. B. Morton for the past week or more, left this morning for Rochester, Pa., to visit relatives.

Miss Gertrude Slagle of Vanderhill, was called on by friends here yesterday.

Mrs. G. D. Swingley and two children of East Main street, returned home yesterday afternoon from a visit with relatives in Pittsburgh.

Miss Mary McCall, accompanied her home, where a bargain is a very big attraction.

D. M. Shaver and little Ruth Deffenbaugh, were in Pittsburgh yesterday visiting with relatives. They recently underwent an operation at the Mercy hospital.

Mrs. W. B. Getchell went to Pittsburgh yesterday to visit with her daughter, Mrs. David Jack, for several days.

Mrs. Frank Strickler and two children, Miss Strickler, and her daughter, Mrs. and Mrs. John Jurett, of Pennsylvania, were in town yesterday.

Miss Mary Gilligan of Lehigh, returned home yesterday afternoon after a visit with her cousins, the Messrs. W. Singer of Pittsburgh, who in town yesterday.

You can get the best thing at greatly reduced prices at Artman's.

Miss John R. Snyder arrived here Monday from New Castle for a several days' visit with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. William Giffels are home from a visit in Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Roundup.
FILES CURED IN 10 TO 14 DAYS. PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of itching, blind, bleeding, or protruding piles in 10 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

BALTO. & OHIO R. R.

New Year's Rates

CONNELLSVILLE TO

Smithton	80
West Newton	75
Scott Haven	90
McKeesport	1.30
Bridgeport	1.40
Pittsburg	1.65

Tickets on sale December 31 and January 1st, 1909, good to return until January 4th inclusive.

Locust Posts For Sale.

Anyone in need of locust fence posts of any kind call on or write HERMAN HAMEL, Connelleville or Laurelville, Pa. Mill located in Tan Yard Hollow. We also carry all kinds of sawed hardwood lumber.

Classified Advertisements.

WANTS, SALES, etc., will be inserted under this heading at the rate of One cent per word for each insertion.

DR. BARNES, Specialist.
Physician treating all general diseases of both sexes. 11. Private Diseases and Weakness of Men and Women a Specialty. Consultation FREE. In Connelleville TUESDAY, and FRIDAY at Wyman Hotel. Home office, 2nd National Bank, Uniontown, Pa.

B. F. Rudolph & Sons.
PLUMBING AND TINKING.
Work of all kind done on shortest notice.
Office, 325 Washington Avenue, Both Phones.

MORRIS & CO. UNDERTAKERS
1415 North Pittsburg St.
Next to The Wheel.
Both Phones 22.

JOHNSTON COAL COMPANY.
Dealers in COAL AND COKE.
Lump, Run of Mine and Shook Coal.
Both Phones 346. Tri-State 22.
Office, 225 East Main Street, Connelleville, Pa.

Open Winters Are Hard on Grass.
To save them have them covered with manure.
W. L. CORBIN
will do it. Address, 301 Cornell Avenue.

WEAR HORNER'S CLOTHING
Watch for the opening chapters of "The Roundup."

BARGAIN TIME IN THE Union Supply Comp'y Stores

Tempting lines of Ladies' and Misses' Wear, including all the late styles in wraps, furs and all sorts of furnishings. Going out this month at special cut prices. December is to be our banner month, and in order to attract business we are cutting prices on all lines. If you need any garment for the women or children—now is the time to save money.

A Good Time to Buy Bargains in Footwear

Our Shoe Departments are overcrowded with the best stocks of shoes for men and women, boys and girls, that were ever in our stores. The goods are all manufactured expressly for us, our own designs made special. We feel sure that any person, male or female, wanting a good, serviceable, dress shoe, can find it in our stocks. We guarantee every pair. If they don't prove satisfactory, return them and get another pair, or if you prefer we will refund your money.

UNION SUPPLY COMPANY.

63 DEPARTMENT STORES
Located in Westmoreland, Fayette, Allegheny Co.'s

"ALL BALLED UP" OR, THE TRANSFORMATION OF A CATCHER.



As Cheap as the Cheapest

"Family Favorite" LAMP OIL

Don't buy any old kind of oil—fresh lamp oil is a precious resource. The "Family Favorite" from the original barrel direct from our refineries. For this reason, "Family Favorite" is the best light to be had—its smoke, its brilliancy, its economy, will not let you down. "Family Favorite" burns to last drop, full and bright. Ask your dealer. Write him now for the details.

WATERLY OIL WORKS CO., Independent Refiners, PITTSBURGH, PA.
Also makers of Waterly Special Lamp Oil and Waterly Gasoline.

Classified Ads 1c a Word They Bring Results

RECEPTION ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Y. M. C. A. Has Sent Out Invitations for the Big Event.

SOME ATHLETIC EXERCISES

Democrats Suggest Men to Fill Various Borough Offices—Two Boys Have a Startling Adventure in Effort to Catch a Chicken.

SCOTTSVILLE, Dec. 30.—The annual New Year's Day reception of the Y. M. C. A. will be held on Friday evening from 7 to 10 o'clock, from invitations issued this week by Robert Skemp, president of the Board of Directors. Admission will be by ticket only, two of them being enclosed with each invitation. Extra ones may be secured by applying to Secretary W. J. Grout. The reception opens at 7 in the gymnasium where there will be dumb bell drills, exercises on the vaulting horse and basketball games by the Junior G.A.S. Followed by tumbling exercises or horizontal bars by the Young Men's class and exercises on parallel bars by the intermediate class. At 8 o'clock the musical program will begin, there will be solo by Mrs. A. C. Schirler, Mrs. Frank Grantham, Mrs. G. F. Kelly, W. J. Barkell and readings by Miss Anna McCullough. There will be also music by the orchestra. The refreshments will be served by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Democratic Suggestion.
The Democrats of the First Ward met at the Borough building last night and suggested candidates to be voted for on January 23. It was decided to proceed to fill out their papers now. Frank P. Goshorn, Bert Ellis and Dr. N. L. K. Kline were suggested for the office of Burgess, and A. R. Bussler for Tax Collector. John L. Hengstler was suggested as the candidate for Council in the ward, and J. A. Vashinder for Judge of Election and M. E. Pritts for Inspector. Elmer Morrow was suggested for School Director.

Blown Up in Outhouse.
It was a startling accident that Harold S. Lynn and Clyde Porter had while in the backyard at the home of E. M. Stutz, who is the Lynn boy's grandfather. The boys heard a noise of something scratching in an out-house and the Lynn boy opened the door. The place was dark and seeing a chicken dully lighted a match to see better.

There was a blaze that flared the building and singed the hair on the side of his face, as the Porter boy was right behind him and when the place blew up they scattered home. The explosion was caused by gas in an old sewer along the alley back of Mulberry street. The explosion was felt in several other houses where the force of it blew the water up the drain traps, to the consternation of people nearby. The chicken that the boy saw escaped uninjured.

GET WATER FROM INDIAN CREEK DAM.

Greensburg Has Perfected Arrangements to Secure a Good Supply in Future.

GREENSBURG, Dec. 30.—Superintendent Murray Forbes, of the Westmoreland Water Company, today gave out a statement that will be good news to Greensburg people who have been alarmed lest the water supply should be shut off. His statement follows: "Arrangements were practically made yesterday with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for a supply of water. This water will be pure, good and soft. Present economy is requested to continue."

Mr. Forbes was in Philadelphia yesterday and held a conference with President James McGee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and secured from him the privilege of supplying the local company's mains from the railroad company's line. The water thus secured will be of the finest quality from the big Indian Creek reservoir four miles above the junction with the Youghiogheny.

The railroad company is performing a similar service for the city of Altoona. "The Westmoreland Water Company's supply is very short at present, there being a supply for not more than another week. However, the company will have a reserve to be used in case of fire."

ELECT OFFICERS.

Camp Marlowe of Greensburg Holds First Annual Election.

GREENSBURG, Dec. 30.—The first annual election of officers by Camp Marlowe, No. 9, Army of the Philippines, which was instituted last fall, was held last evening and the following officers for the ensuing year were chosen: Commander, W. T. Don, Jr.; Senior Vice Commander, R. D. Laird; Junior Vice Commander, Col. R. Coulter; Adjutant, Charles W. Earnest; Paymaster, Morris Barclay; Chaplain, J. Riley Bailey; Officer of the Guard, James H. Kelly; Guard, Alf. T. Rugh; Bugler, Frank M. Keffer.

Try our classified advertisements.

RELATIVES TO RESCUE

Swear Alleged Night Riders Were at Home on Night of Murder.

Union City, Tenn., Dec. 30.—With the defense of the eight night riders on trial for the murder of Captain Quentin Ranken well under way the case has been turned over to a round of consecutive testimony.

Each of the defendants presented many persons who were their relatives the night of the Ranken murder, and recalled many incidents that occurred then. Mrs. Grady, mother-in-law of Wad Morris, one of the confessed riders, swore that her son-in-law was in bed in the same room with her at 10 o'clock on the night of the killing and therefore could not have been at the murder, as he says himself.

Sam Baker swore that Marshal Barker, another confessed rider, was in bed with him the night of the killing of Ranken.

M. Y. Reid, father-in-law of Bud Morris, one of the defendants, testified to an alibi for him and denied that he told a different story before the grand jury. Withered, wrinkled and poorly clad, Morris's mother, age eighty-five, a tired, hopeless voice, swore that her son was at home the night of the murder. Other witnesses swore the same, and the defense indicated that it would prove an alibi for each of the eight men, one by one.

SOLD COAL TOO CHEAP

Is Alleged in Suit to Recover by Hocking Coal Company.

Toledo, O., Dec. 30.—Alleging that a conspiracy to defraud had been entered into between E. T. Atteck and Shiley A. McManis, its general manager, the Columbus and Hocking Coal company of Columbus has brought suit here against Mr. Atteck for \$216,000.

It is alleged that as a result of a conspiracy to enrich themselves, McManis, as general manager of the coal company, sold to himself and Atteck, as the Atteck Coal company, about 500,000 tons of the plaintiff's coal at a price forty-two cents below the market.

Kills Father to Protect Mother.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 30.—William Hill, age fifty, was shot and killed at 11 a.m. on the Kentucky-Tennessee line, by his stepson, William Sowers, age eighteen, who was protecting his mother from injury at the hands of Hill.

6th News of Nearby Towns.

DUNBAR.

DUNBAR, Dec. 30.—Mr. and Mrs. James DuBois of Connellsville were in town Tuesday calling on friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Bane and family of DuBois are here the guests of Mrs. Ellen Courtney of Franklin.

Miss Margaret McNulty of New Haven was here Tuesday the guest of friends.

Mr. and Mrs. James Burns of Republic was here over Sunday the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Kerwin of Connellsville.

Mrs. Nellie Burns of Pittsburg is here the guest of her mother, Mrs. Mary Mahoney of Franklin Road for a few days.

Miss Nettie Burns of Lamont was here Tuesday evening the guest of friends.

Mrs. Margaret and Master James Byrne, who have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Wagner of Connellsville for the past few days, left for their home in Uniontown on Monday.

Miss Stella Baker, who has been the guest of friends here for the past few days, returned home Monday.

Mrs. Charles Wheeler left Monday for Altoona, where she will be the guest of friends for a few days.

Joseph Higgins was a business caller in Connellsville Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. George and four children, who have been visiting at Washington, Pa. for the past few days, returned home Monday evening.

Andrew Calhoun, who was visiting in Connellsville Tuesday evening.

Harry McGibbons was in Uniontown Sunday evening, the guests of the First Presbyterian Church, where he will be the guest of friends.

Miss Sue Cotton was the guest of friends in Uniontown on Tuesday afternoon.

The Republicans of the borough held their suggestion meeting in the Burgess office on Woodvale street and the following candidates were named: Judge of election, P. Sifton; Inspector, Harry Bunting; Justices of the peace, M. V. B. Scott, J. Wilhelm and R. C. Buntz; Burgess, J. W. Carr; Right, D. K. Cameron; Council, Sam. right, G. Martin, P. C. Wilhelm, Frank Frost and W. W. Brant; tax collector, no name; school director, John J. Hart, Clark Pope.

Henry Goldsmith, the insurance man from Connellsville, was here Tuesday looking after business matters.

Mrs. Elizabeth Minard of Youngwood is here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Kelly of the First National Bank building.

Naphtha Loosens The Dirt.

Soap cleans. That is how P. & G. Naphtha Soap does its work.

The naphtha in it, by loosening the dirt, makes it easy for the soap to do the work it is intended to do—cleanse.

P. & G. Naphtha Soap would clean just as thoroughly as it does, if it contained no naphtha at all, but it would take more time and more work.

Naphtha and good soap make an ideal combination—a combination that does away with half the work and practically all the discomfort of wash day; and makes it possible for a woman to do as much work in 4 or 5 hours as now takes twice that long.

Boiling of clothes, with all its attendant annoyances, is a thing of the past with women who use P. & G. Naphtha Soap. So is nine-tenths of the hard work over the washboard.

P. & G. Naphtha Soap
5 cents a cake.

days, left Tuesday morning for Mc Clellandtown where he is employed. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lee of Youngstown, O. is here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Korr of Speers Hill.

John Stahl, who has been visiting his family over Christmas, left on Tuesday to resume his work at McClellandtown.

William Calhoun was calling on Uniontown friends Tuesday evening.

The Christmas cantata, entitled, "Mother Goose's Visit to Santa Claus," which was rendered by the Sunday School of the Methodist Protestant Church on Christmas eve will be repeated on New Year's eve. An admission fee of ten cents will be charged to be used in defraying necessary expenses.

Immediately following the cantata, the Women's Foreign Missionary Society will have charge of a service to continue one hour. At this session Rev. C. C. Miller, D. D., will speak on a subject of current interest. After short intermission the meeting will again be called to order and Rev. T. C. Viole of Uniontown will deliver an address. A collection will be taken and quite a variety for one night's service. All are cordially invited to come and enjoy the entire evening, especially so to the present during the Christmas season.

Rev. and Mrs. Francis W. Perkins and son, Kenneth, were in Uniontown Saturday evening attending the 10th anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. P. C. Viole.

The Young people of the Methodist Protestant Church met on Monday evening and elected the following officers: President, Miss Pearl Bleher; Vice President, John Williams; Secretary, Miss Bessie Meyer; Treasurer, Emma Meyer; Marshal, Andrew Calhoun; and at the same time a collection was taken for the support of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kerwin of Connellsville were in town Tuesday the guests of friends.

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The Most Fashionable New Styles in Women's Tailored Suits

Will Figure Wednesday in this Stirring. Unique 9-Hour Sale.



WOMEN'S \$25 TO \$35 SUITS REDUCED

In a stunning new 36-inch model, coat is half-fitted, elegantly trimmed with broad or strictly plain tailored, and lined throughout with the quality satin, skirts are the new flare or plaited models, finished with deep fold and buttons, colors are black, blue, brown, green and London smoke; REMEMBER FOR WEDNESDAY ONLY.

\$16.75

\$15 SKIRTS REDUCED

Allman's \$15 value skirts at \$9.40; made from Allman's best values in a delightfully stunning flare model, trimmed with satin bands and buttons; REMEMBER FOR WEDNESDAY ONLY.

\$9.40

\$16.50 TO \$18.75 SUITS REDUCED

Made from chevrons, broadcloths or striped mixtures, jackets are 36 to 38 inches long, satin lined throughout and men tailored, skirts are pleated models, with fold and buttons, colors, blue, brown and green; REMEMBER FOR WEDNESDAY ONLY.

\$9.90

\$25 TO \$35 COATS REDUCED

Cut in the handsome Empire smart directoire, semi-fitting, and light-fitting model, with all the new effects of collar, cuffs and pockets, some are elaborately trimmed with fancy braid or satin applied in various ways. All beautifully lined with guaranteed satin. REMEMBER FOR WEDNESDAY ONLY; COATS WORTH UP TO \$35.

\$18.75

ALL
XMAS
GOODS
1/2 PRICE

FELDSTEIN'S,
136 N. Pittsburg St.,
Connellsville, Pa.

FURS
AT
ALMOST
1/2 PRICE.

ent evening was spent, the principal amusement of the evening being music on the graphophone and the phonograph. Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Orinfield were in town doing some shopping yesterday.

S. F. Supply was a business caller in town Tuesday.

Rev. Smonacker and wife left Tuesday morning for Tiffin, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Black of Uniontown, after spending several days in town with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Black, returned home Tuesday.

Mrs. Fred Wilhelm of Connellsville, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Orinfield for the past week, returned home Monday evening.

Thomas Knight, who is recovering from a severe attack of typhoid fever, is now able to be around again.

S. S. Krieger and Jasper Krieger of near Denktown were in town on Tuesday, after spending several days in town with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Orinfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edgar were the guests of friends here for the past few days.

Bradley Hostetter, a teacher for the C. W. Cloughs Lumber Company, left this evening for West Virginia, where he has secured a position.

Miss Lillian Waller of Markleton was in town enquiring Tuesday.

Mrs. Abby Morrison, who has been visiting her parents at Drina for the past few days, returned home.

Mrs. Lydia Swopes of Fulton spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Meyer.

Miss Zola Henry is home from a few days visit with friends and relatives in Greensburg.

Mrs. Harry McGill spent Monday in Monaca visiting friends.

A number of Dawson people took in the dance at Gettysburg last evening among whom were Misses Bess Lebn-

SMITHFIELD.

SMITHFIELD, Dec. 30.—Arthur Sutton has quit the train service of the B. & O. and taken up the study of dentistry. He is here from Cincinnati on a vacation from a dental college there, visiting his parents and other relatives in the borough.

Edward Campbell, who is in a hospital at Pittsburg with typhoid pneumonia, was recovering well.

Mrs. M. C. Johnson is moving a plot of ground that she owns at the foot of Water street, laid out in town lots, to the foot of High street.

D. R. Griffith of Uniontown was a business caller today.

Wm. M. Beckman of South Georgia was an early caller this morning. While here he called on the writer and received his subscription to the Courier for another year.

Bert Grimm of Hecla is visiting his father, G. M. Grimm, over Christmas.

Mr. John Baker, who died from the effects of typhoid, was buried in the cemetery here Monday morning.

The "Biting Bull" tribe of Col. Fred Redmond's charge of the funeral. He carried an insurance in the Metropolitan Insurance Company, and a death benefit of \$100 in the above order.

D. P. Morgan, cashier of the First National Bank, has been laid up at his home in Spring Hill, townships, for a couple of weeks with a carbuncle on his neck.

John Jenkins of Woodbridge town was a business visitor in the borough this morning.

"The Roundup."

"The Roundup."

"The Roundup."

"The Roundup."

"The Roundup."

"The Roundup."

PERRYPOLE.

PERRYPOLE, Pa., Dec. 30.—Mr. and Mrs. William Stickle of Greensburg are guests of Dr. and Mrs. L. T. Russell. Mrs. Stickle is a sister of the doctor.

A suggestion meeting of the Republican party will be held in the election room for Perry No. 1 this evening at 7 o'clock.

A number of our people are attending the revival services at the Methodist Episcopal Church at Star Junction these evenings where over 75 have come forward.

Superintendent William Armstrong of the Jintown works of the Washington Coal and Coke Company is putting out a good grade of coal these days and his plant running in number one style.

The water question in town is not as serious as it was some few weeks ago, but it still behooves us to be careful with all lamps and open fire places for fear of fire.

When you want anything advertised in our classified column, it is worth.

MT. PLEASANT.

MT. PLEASANT, Pa., Dec. 30.—A fair sized audience witnessed the "Merry New Year" in the Grand Opera House last night. The show was one of the best musical comedies that has visited this place for some time.

Clark Gadd of Iron Bridge was shopping in this place yesterday.

Randall Mahoney and Oscar Randolph were callers at Hecla yesterday.

G. W. Scott of Pittsburg was a business caller in town yesterday.

H. P. Ferguson of Greensburg was a caller in town Tuesday.

Charles Bossart is employed at Hecla doing some brick work this week.

Miss Maude Cunningham returned today from Morgantown, W. Va. where she has been visiting relatives for the past week.

STAR JUNCTION.

STAR JUNCTION, Pa., Dec. 30.—The Ladies' Christian Union will give a lunch in the M. E. Church Tuesday, December 31. A silver offering will be taken. Everybody is invited.

LIVED 50 YEARS ON FARM WHERE SIMON GIRTZ IS BURIED.

Mrs. George Mickle While Visiting at Lorain, Ohio, Tells an Interesting Story of White Renegade.

STORY OF GIRTZ'S DEATH.

Died in Canada and Was Buried in Mid-Winter—Stable Bull Over the Grave to Prevent Removal of Body.

The recent visit of Mrs. George Mickle of Amherstburg, Ontario, to Lorain, Ohio, developed a little touch of local color and character to a very interesting bit of early American history.

The farm on which Mrs. Mickle resides is the one which was formerly the home of Simon Girtz, a white renegade, whose many atrocities and depredations made him one of the most dreaded characters on the American frontier in this section of the country about the time of the Revolutionary war. His ancestors and some of his immediate family lived on this farm before the present owners came into possession of it and several of them are buried there.

Few people can recall the facts concerning the career of this desperado and the blood-curdling deeds which are attributed to him. He lived among the Indians all his life and became conversant with the language of many of the tribes so that he was a valuable man as an interpreter among them for the United States and Great Britain during attempts to settle the country along the lake region. His life was a continuous round of battles and conflicts in which he was now on one side and now on the other, and in each case his peritility he served in the armies of the United States and Great Britain at different times and even enlisted white men and Indians to fight his cause and gain his ends.

When still a boy he was captured by the Indians and was held a captive for three years; when he secured his release by his shrewd dealings with the red men. He became their interpreter and served in this capacity with the traders and settlers that came into the wilderness of the then northwest. But his next move was to fight the Indians during Lord Dufferin's war. Shortly after this conflict he enlisted in the Virginia militia as second lieutenant.

In 1776 he became interpreter for the United States when the government was attempting to draw up a treaty with the savages, but he was discredited for having treated the government representatives with the most insolent contempt and was said to have been the cause of making it impossible for the government to effect a satisfactory treaty with the Indians.

After enlisting some troops to fight the English near Fort Pitt he became an interpreter in the service of the English during their Indian troubles and encouraged the Indians to attack the American frontiersmen who were then attempting to make settlements in the Great Lakes region.

From this time on he was identified with raids and the atrocities of the Indians. He led them in their attacks on Dunlap Station on the Great Miami, in February, 1791, and at the battle of St. Clair. He commanded them at Fort Jefferson, on the Mississippi, at the battle of the Fallen Timbers, in 1794 and at the attack on Fort Henry, now the site of Wheeling, W. Va.

In 1793 he was with the Indians when Col. Win. Crawford, the great Revolutionary commander, was requested by General Washington to assume command on an expedition against the Wyandots and Delawares near the Sandusky river. By some unfortunate maneuvering the American soldiers were routed by a body of 300 Indians and British soldiers. Col. Crawford was taken to a place just a little northwest of the present site of Sandusky. A retreat of the Americans followed, during which Col. Crawford was captured while in search of his son whom he feared had been lost or had fallen into the hands of the savages. Col. Crawford was subjected to the severest kind of torture to avenge the outrages that were claimed to have been committed by the white soldiers who had been in the country previously. After several days of cruel torture and brutal treatment he was burned at the stake.

Historians relate that Girtz was present at the time and looked on with delight during Col. Crawford's last agonies. This act is made all the more inhuman from the fact that Girtz and Col. Crawford were honest friends during their boyhood days in their old home in Pennsylvania, and also because Col. Crawford is said to have begged Girtz to shoot him and end his suffering, which he refused to do.

After this episode Girtz continued his raiding and murdering excursions extensively and on one occasion showed one mark of real humanity by rescuing his old friend, Simon Kenton, who was about to be put to death by a military council on the spot.

Girtz next invaded Kentucky but was driven out during the exploits of Daniel Boone. He was instrumental in the expulsion of the Moravians

missionaries who were attempting to better the conditions of the savage tribes.

Historians disagree as to the time and the cause of Girtz's death. Some say he was killed in the battle of the Phamous in 1818, but Mrs. Mickle states that people of her acquaintance have told of the last days of the renegade being spent in the seclusion of the farm in Canada. "One man in particular," said Mrs. Mickle, "used to relate the story of the burial of Girtz, which he saw with his own eyes, on the old farm. It took place in the dead of winter and his body was carried through snow up to a man's waist to a spot in the old orchard."

Mrs. Mickle says that she remembers of seeing the pallings still about the grave in her younger days and used to see Girtz's relatives cross her farm in going to the grave.

Mrs. Mickle has lived on the old Girtz farm for over 50 years, she being now 75 years of age. Her home is two and a half miles south of old Fort Malden, and just at the mouth of the Detroit river, where it empties into Lake Erie. The residence is situated on a large farm overlooking the river opposite Bar Point. She is a most beautiful old lady. Her hair is white as snow, but her eyes and mind are as bright as a person many years her junior. She is of the most happy and pleasing disposition, and has a kind word for everyone and her ability to recount interesting episodes of her life is marvelous.

She remembers when very little whippersnaws came on the lakes and the Detroit river. When she was a young girl she said, "We used to sit in our doorway and watch occasional ships for hours as they came up the lake under sail and entered the river. But now it is one continuous panorama of water craft, from the little sail boats and motor launches to 600-foot freighters."

Her husband's father bought the farm on which they live, from a man by the name of Harris who had come into possession of it from some of the Girtz family and at the father's death the farm was left to Mrs. Mickle's husband, who is now deceased, and his brother. To keep the remains of Simon Girtz from being taken from their resting place Mr. Mickle caused one corner of his drive shed to be erected over the grave and on that spot it remains to this day. Simon Girtz's son, Thomas, and a grandson are also buried near the same spot.

BE SURE YOU'RE RIGHT.

Then Take a Long Think and Mine Your Own Business.

The other day a man travelling on a shore line train noticed, protruding from an overhead rack, a dress suit case which he recognized as belonging to a friend. He knew that his friend always got off at the station which they had just passed, and as he was not in the next conclusion was inevitable that he had jumped off the train and forgotten it.

The man called the conductor and explained the case to him. After some discussion and a mild protest on the part of the conductor that it wasn't part of his duty, the suit case was put off at the next station, with instructions to send it back on the first train the other way.

The man, feeling that he had done an able and friendly act, settled down for the rest of his journey. But not for long. The face of his friend, who had been in the smelter and who happened on that particular afternoon to be going on to New London to attend a dinner party—loomed before him.

The moral of this is, of course, quite evident.

Be sure you're right and then mind your own business.—Life.

Outwitting a Bushranger.

In Mr. George E. Bonall's "Story of the Australian Bushrangers" the following little episode is related: A man named Michael, who went to Australia for food, found the place in the hands of the bushrangers. Fourteen guests were already alarmed and were being searched in order. Michael was compelled to take his place in line. The bushrangers handed him a pan of hot water before they took his money. Knowing what was coming, he held the pan as if the two were too hot to drink, and when the leader of the highwaymen was looking away dropped his roll of bank notes into it. He stood quite quiet, and when the bushrangers came to feel his pockets there were only a few shillings in them. The robbers appeared satisfied and allowed him to go. He carried his pan of hot water with him, took his money and put it in his pocket without being observed. Then he mounted his horse and rode to the nearest police station and gave information.

"Spoken English Very Good."

From an advertisement of a Danish hotel: "The hotel charmingly situated, surrounded of a nice garden the good cuisine, the kindly accommodation, with moderate charges and good conveniences, with easy access for salmon and trout fishing, the ascending of the surrounding mountains has done this place well-known and praised of all travellers. N. B.—The landlord is spoken English very good."

NEW RULER OF VENEZUELA AND SCENE IN CAPITOL CITY.



The coup of General Juan Gomez and his assumption of rule in Venezuela is regarded in some European quarters with suspicion. Cables from London intimate that Castro was cognizant of the coup, but this view is not shared at Washington. Germany looks with favor on the new Government, and the French newspapers hint with satisfaction what they consider the definite downfall of President Castro and commend the energetic attitude of Holland as an important influence in the collapse of a reign of violence and insecurity.

GEORGE T. OLIVER IS WELL QUALIFIED.

Hon. John W. Crawford Discusses His Ability to Succeed Knox.

IS A THOROUGH BUSINESS MAN

Has Been an Active Business Man and Won His Laurels by Hard and Consistent Work in Many Lines. Reasons Why He Should Be Chosen.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 30.—The Hon. John W. Crawford, of the Fifth district, senior member of the State Senate of Pennsylvania and Chairman of the Allegheny county Legislative delegation, is taking a keen interest in the candidacy of George T. Oliver for the United States Senate. Discussing the situation today, Senator Crawford, who recently was re-elected for a fourth term, said:

"It is now nearly two weeks since the candidacy of George T. Oliver for the United States Senate was first seriously considered, and a week since the Allegheny county Legislative delegation unanimously endorsed him. In caucus. During this time, as a friend of his, I have paid some attention to newspaper comment on the subject, and especially to such of it as was unfriendly. It is of this that I think something should be said."

"Some have sneered because Mr. Oliver is wealthy. Is that discreditable? I have yet to learn that to be born without means, to work hard for 30 or 40 years, to contend time and again against adverse fortune, to survive the reverses inevitable in a period of industrial development and transition, and at last to achieve a comfortable position in life, should be held objectionable. Mr. Oliver is not of the sudden rich, but quite the contrary. He has not oppressed, he has not crushed others, and he has resorted to no unlawful or improper methods for his own aggrandizement."

"Some have urged that we must have another Knox—another great lawyer and another great orator. Not necessarily. Spooners, Knoxes, Rootes and Culbertsons are few, and that is why they stand out so brilliantly. Besides, it is not essential that one excel in these respects in order to make a good Senator. The man of most dominating personality in the Senate today is neither orator nor lawyer. The President is not a lawyer. The late Senator Allison was only an ordinary lawyer, and an ordinary speaker, and yet he was an extremely valuable Senator. Mark Hanna was not a lawyer and made no speeches until late in life, but he was a real Senator for all that. As for Mr. Oliver, he was a practicing attorney for 10 years and he is well grounded in the law. He was but 26, and had been at the bar only three years when he was made solicitor for the Dollar Savings Bank. This was in 1874, when that bank was the largest financial institution in Pittsburgh. The Trustees were among the most conservative and substantial men in the city, and the service was a peculiarly exacting nature, requiring both skill and discretion. It was the most important general counselship in this part of the State. Mr. Oliver discharged its duties with entire satisfaction and retained the position un-

til he retired from active practice in 1881. The place is now held by Mayor George W. Guthrie. In short, you may be sure that Mr. Oliver is lawfully enough to discriminate between what is constitutional legislation and what is unconstitutional legislation, between meritorious measures and political hubbub. As to speaking, he can take care of himself in the committee room or on his feet. At any rate, the criticism we hear most frequently of the Senate is that it runs the much to oratory. Often the cry is for fewer speeches and less prolonged discussion, so I fancy one could more or less well not impair the nation. Besides, the tendency of all legislation today is toward the regulation of business. More and more each year we are trying to correct commercial and industrial evils, minimize transportation abuses and relieve the distresses of labor by act of Congress. What more natural, therefore, than for Pennsylvania Senators to be intimately concerned in these problems—to increase the number of business men in the Senate by sending a business man like Mr. Oliver to Washington? We all know that for nearly 30 years he has had to do with the very questions now uppermost in the public mind—as a manufacturer, an employer, a shipper, a transporter, a developer, an investor and an editor.

"The experience he has had must prove invaluable when applied to proposed legislation; his legal training will keep him on a constitutional ground, while the saving common sense which has always characterized him will act as a deterrent to radicalism, so that he will be able to keep the issues of business and national prosperity."

"I noted with amusement the remark of one paper that though a man might be a good father, a kind employer, a respected citizen, of acknowledged integrity, and also a loyal Republican, he should not seek election to the United States Senate. Still, these are attributes not to be despised even by men who occupy 'the seats of the mighty.' If a man be admirable in his personal relations, if after he has lived for 60 years in the same community he is of good repute for probity and fair dealing, and be notable for the instincts of decency which invariably inspire his attitude toward others, it is reasonable to assume that the same rule of conduct will be observed by him as a public servant. In other words, we in Pittsburgh command Mr. Oliver to the people and Legislature of Pennsylvania as the right man to succeed Senator Knox because we know that he can be trusted in all things. We believe he will live up to the best traditions of the Senate and will not lower the standard of excellence which is and ought to be demanded of that distinguished body."

"I have also seen Mr. Oliver referred to as a machine politician, or a mere 'organization man,' and an office-seeker. He is an 'organization man' in that he has been persistently loyal and unselfishly devoted to the Republican party in this State and nation. It has been a matter of faith and principle with him, not one of personal advantage, power or profit; nor has he been the creature of a clique, or the beneficiary of unfair methods. So far from seeking office, hitherto he has done just the opposite. Twenty-eight years ago he declined a state senatorship, ten years ago he declined a nomination for Congressman-at-large, and four years ago he declined the United States Senatorship. Those honors were within his reach without opposition in his party, but for personal reasons he remained in private life. In all the intervening years, however, there has been no more sincere laborer in the Republican cause. Surely, then, now that he aspires to a seat in the United States Senate, and

by general consent Allegheny county is looked to for the successor to Senator Knox, it should be a pleasure for Pennsylvania Republicans to pay Mr. Oliver a well-deserved compliment to round out his career. It seems to me that a man who in the larger sense has enjoyed the confidence of McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft—to go no further back in the roll of Republican Presidents—is pretty substantial senatorial timber."—Adv.

THE BEE'S STING.

An Ugly Weapon, Something Like a Three Bladed Sword.

The bee's sting is made up of three separate lances, each with a barbed edge and each capable of being thrust forward independently of the others. The central and broader lance has a hollow, face furnished at each side with a rail or beading, which runs its whole length. On the back of each of the other two lances there is a longitudinal groove, and into these grooves fit the raised bendings of the central lance.

Thus the sting is like a sword with three blades—barbed, but sliding upon one another—the barbed points of which continue to advance alternately into the wound, going ever deeper and deeper of their own volition, as though after the initial thrust is made. It is a device of war compared to which the explosive bullet is but a clumsy brutality. Yet this is not all.

To make its death dealing power doubly sure this thorough minded amazon must fill the butt of her triple blade with a subtle poison and so contrive its sliding mechanism that the same impulse which drives the points successively forward drushes the whole weapon with a fatal juice. From "The Lore of the Honey Bee," by Tiekner Edwards.

The Weather House.

A very ingenious contrivance for foretelling the weather is the old fashioned "weather house," largely made in Switzerland. It is arranged in such a way that two figures act in response to the twisting of a piece of catgut. The material, supported by a wire, controls the movements of a little platform on either end of which is placed a model. Excessive moisture in the air causes the catgut to twist and turn the platform round, so that the man emerges from one of the doors in the front of the house. Reverse conditions of the atmosphere bring about the contraction of the catgut, and the platform swings back, thus bringing the figure of the woman into prominence at her particular door. The making of a weather house is quite an easy matter.

Attell Retains Championship. New Orleans, Dec. 30.—Abe Attell retained the featherweight championship by knocking out Blk Mackay in the eighth round before the Westside Athletic club.

RHEUMATIC FOLKS.

Are You Sure Your Kidneys Are Well?

Many rheumatic attacks are due to uric acid in the blood. But the duty of the kidneys is to remove all uric acid from the blood. Its presence there shows the kidneys are inactive. Don't dally with "uric acid" solvents. You might go on till doomsday with them, but until you cure the kidneys you will never get well. Don't's Kidney Pills not only remove uric acid, but cure the kidneys and then all danger from uric acid is ended. Here is Connellsville testimony to prove it.

Mrs. Frank Bettsball, 259 E. Fairview avenue, Connellsville, Pa., says: "My husband suffered from kidney disease for years. He complained of severe pains in his back and at times was subject to attacks of rheumatism. The kidney secretions passed irregularly, were unnatural and otherwise disordered. When he saw Don's Kidney Pills so highly recommended, he procured a box and began their use. After a few days he felt better. The pains soon ceased, the kidney secretions became regular and he was stronger. He used just one box of Don's Kidney Pills and today is without a symptom of kidney complaint." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Don's—and take no other.

ONE HALF - MILLINERY - ONE HALF

We have 97 Trimmed Hats in our Millinery Department, which we have decided to close out at half price. These hats are models of millinery art and are hats that have sold from \$2.99 to \$10.00. You may have your choice of the assortment while they last for just one half. Come in and look them over while the assortment is complete and secure an early choice.

Shoes, Rubbers

Ladies Rubbers, Steam or Croquet out, pair \$1.00
Misses Rubbers, sizes 11 to 2, pair75
Men's Rubbers, sizes 11 to 2, pair75
Men's rolled edge Double Sole Rubbers, pair75
Men's Dress or Work Shoes, pair \$1.25
Ladies fine Patent Leather Dress Shoes, pair \$1.40
The Hamilton-Brown Shoes for Women, all styles, all leather, pair \$2.40 and \$1.00
Men's Solid Leather Shoes, sizes 7 to 11 1/2, pair80
Men's high cut Tan Buckle Work Shoes, pair \$1.00
The American Gentleman Shoe, pair \$1.00
Shoes, per pair \$1.00
Men's Pelt Boots, with high perforation gum-overs, pair \$1.00
The Whitecomb Shoe for men, all sizes, all leathers, all styles, pair \$2.00
The American Gentleman Shoe for Men, all styles, all leathers, pair \$3.50

BLANKETS

Large Comforts, fine alkaline covering, in fancy patterns, filled with white carded cotton, fancy stitching. Price \$1.50
Fine Comforts, assorted patterns covered with finest mercerized satine, a beautiful lot of patterns, extra size, filled with white carded cotton, 7 1/2 pounds weight, each \$2.00
Full 10-4 Cotton Blankets, gray or tan, color striped borders, pair65c
Full 11-4 Cotton Blankets, extra heavy and warm, fleeced in gray or tan, with colored stripe border, pair90c
Extra large Cotton Blankets, fancy stripe and barred patterns, beautiful combinations, and heavy weight, pair \$1.40
Wool Blankets, black and white barred, full 3 1/2 lb. blanket, pair \$2.25
Fine soft all Wool Blankets in all the colors, blue and white barred, red and black, black and white and gray and white barred, full four pound blankets, pair \$3.00
Good full size Comforts Do

SCHMITZ' New York Racket Store.

Yough Plumbing Co

126 West Peach Street (Successors to)
FITZMIER & CO.
Steam, Hot Water and Hot Air Heating, Plumbing, Tinning, Galvanized Iron Work and Composition Roofing.
Estimates cheerfully furnished. All Work Guaranteed.
Bell Phone 475. Tri-State 115.

AT THE THEATRES.

SOISSON THEATRE.

"A Merry New York Maid."

"A Merry New York Maid" which comes to the Soisson Theatre, matinee and night, Thursday, December 31, is really a delightful entertainment, as any one who has had an opportunity to enjoy it can testify. Mr. Robert Garndt and company are equally delightful. If you don't care to laugh don't go to see it. If you don't like good music and good singing, stay away. If you are serious and don't care to forget the outside world for a couple of hours you must be sure to stay at home on Thursday evening, for the "A Merry New York Maid" Company will make you break all these things and cause you to laugh, hum the songs and forget all the troubles that you can possibly have. The only intention of the author or was to make people laugh, and the intention of the company is to please you, and that both is true is an established fact. The piece is successful, as has been attested by the theatregoers in all of the larger cities. Headed by Elsie Edna Garndt, with Robert Garndt in his original role of Dunraven Brown, the company is a first-class one and is a great staging organization. You have only one chance to see it this season, so remember the date. Seats now on

The popular Guy Bros.' Minstrels will be the attraction at the Soisson Theatre, Monday, January 2.

THE CASINO.

"Parisian Belles Burlesque. One of the very good burlesque shows of this season will be the Parisian Belles at the Casino Theatre Saturday, January 2.



THE FRA—the Best Printed Magazine in America.

REWARD

We will give you a Scholarship in the International Correspondence School—\$100.00 Course—Any Subject. Or we will give you a Howard Watch, \$50.00, Gold Model, 25 year Guarantee, if you send us 100 new FRA Magazine Subscriptions. Also a 25% Cash Commission paid on all Subscriptions.

We Want 50,000 New FRA Subscribers Before February 1st, 1909

We need your assistance, and we are willing to pay for it in Cash. Each New Subscriber Means 50 cents for You. 100 New Subscribers secures for you a Howard Watch or an International Course, FREE, in addition to the Money. The Subscriptions to be sent within three months time. Write to-day for Special Selling Outfit and full particulars. THE FRA Magazine at all First Class Newsdealers. 25 cents a copy, \$2.00 a Year. Our reference—Any Bank in the Country.

THE ROYCROFTERS, EAST AURORA, New York.

TAFT ALONE IN ASKING CAUCUS.

Burton and Foraker Both Opposed to the Proposal.

TENSE SITUATION AT COLUMBUS

Contest to Succeed Joseph Benson Foraker in United States Senate Likely to Be Decided by Open Vote in Legislature.

Columbus, O., Dec. 30.—The prospect of a settlement by caucus this week of the senatorial contest that is stirring Ohio as have few political events in recent years was seriously diminished when Congress man Theodore E. Burton announced that he was opposed to the plan of bringing the Republican members of the legislature together in joint conference on Saturday next.

The supporters of Charles P. Taft had demanded that a caucus be held Saturday, following the separate caucuses of senators and representatives to choose legislative officers, and Taft adherents are circulating a petition to that end. Mr. Burton has let it be known that he is entirely satisfied with the progress of his campaign and that he is not convinced of the necessity of imposing a choice on the legislative leaders ten days in advance of the time set for the senatorial ballot.

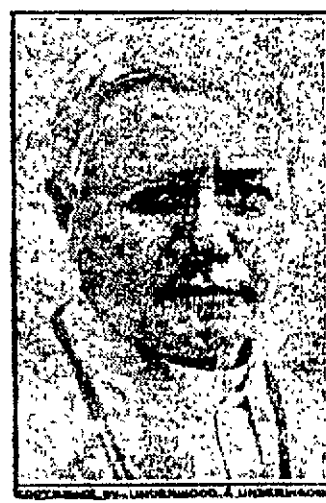
United States Senator Foraker has already announced himself as opposed to a caucus and General J. Warren Keifer, another candidate for senator, has also taken an opposing position, thus leaving the Taft supporters almost alone in their demand for a caucus. Mr. Burton has not said that he would oppose a caucus some time next week, after the members are sworn in, though it seems doubtful now that a decisive conference will be held at any time.

More than ever it seems that the contest is to be taken to the floor of the legislature, and this turn of affairs is particularly pleasing to Senator Foraker, whose attitude of silence has been somewhat disconcerting to his opponents. Senator Foraker has declared himself in the light to win and, although he is credited with holding only from eight to twelve of the ninety-one Republican votes on joint ballot, his adherents declare he is by no means eliminated from the race. Senator Foraker continues to deny that he will receive Democratic support, and says Democrats may vote for any one of the other candidates, but not for him. The Foraker forces say that the senatorial contest ultimately will resolve itself into a choice between Senator Foraker and Mr. Burton.

POPE AND KING GIVE

Contribute \$600,000 to Relief of Earthquake Sufferers.

Rome, Dec. 30.—It is announced today that the pope will inaugurate the establishment of an international com-



POPE PIUS X.

mittee of Roman Catholics the world over to assist the survivors of the catastrophe.

The pope has the subscription list with 1,000,000 lire (\$200,000).

It is understood that King Victor Emmanuel will give 2,000,000 lire for the relief of the victims.

The minister of the interior has received a telegram from Messina, saying that the bodies of seventy English travelers and thirty Germans are buried beneath the ruins of the hotels Trinacria, Victoria and Bellevue at Messina.

Religious Communities Wiped Out. London, Dec. 30.—A special dispatch received here from Rome says the pope has been told that the entire religious communities of Messina and Reggio, including bishops, priests, nuns and monks have been wiped out by the earthquake and fire.

Crowded Hall Collapses. Baltimore, Dec. 30.—The upper floor of a hall at a society party here collapsed during a dance, causing a number of persons to be injured and several to be killed.

County Treasurer Robbed of \$5,087. Woonsocket, R. I., Dec. 30.—County Treasurer Michael Mer was held up in the office by two masked men and robbed of \$5,087.

BEARING IMAGES THROUGH RUINS AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE IN SICILY.



Messina, the second commercial town in Sicily, has experienced more devastation through earthquakes, plague and war than any other place in history. The earthquakes of 1891 and 1905 are well remembered. On those occasions priests carried images of the saints through the streets of the stricken city and among the ruins to calm the people. Messina was founded by Cumæan pirates B. C. 732. In A. D. 813 the Saracens took the city, and they in turn were dispossessed by the Normans in 1063. In 1740 a plague cost the lives of 10,000 persons in the town, and in 1783 an earthquake killed many thousands. The city was bombarded by Neapolitan troops in 1818, and in 1871 cholera killed 16,000 of the residents.

RESCUERS CONTENT WITH FIRE AND GAS.

In Effort to Save Score of Imprisoned Miners in West Virginia Mine.

Bluefield, W. Va., Dec. 30.—Twelve men are dead and probably twenty-five more were entombed as the result of an explosion which occurred in the Lick Branch colliery owned by the Pocahontas Consolidated Coal company, the largest coal-mining concern in Southern West Virginia. It is not known exactly how many men were in the mine at the time.

The men leave the mine after what is known as the "blast" and many of the fifty-two who were not in the mine when the explosion occurred. They know a dead: Henry Lockhart, colored, Richard Lockhart, colored, James Lockhart, John Brown, John Miller, Kemp Sanders, James Smith, Charles Little, W. Little, Cleve Alexander, Pastor Kennedy.

Eighteen men have been taken out of the colliery alive. State Mine inspectors Phillips, Henry, Warner and Grady, who were in the Tug River field, came to the scene of the explosion and took charge of the work of exploring the mine.

The little town of Switchback, in which all of the miners who work in the colliery live, was wild with excitement when the news spread that an explosion had taken place, and from all the neighboring collieries men hurried to the scene to aid in the work of rescue.

A special train bearing the officials of the company was sent from Pocahontas to the scene.

LEFT 50 MILLIONS

Will of Sprackles, the Sugar King, Filled For Probate.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—The will of Claus Sprackles has been filed for probate with the clerk of San Francisco county. Under its terms the widow, Anna Christina Sprackles, receives a life interest in the estate, which after her death is to be divided among three children, Claus A. Sprackles, Rudolph Sprackles and Mrs. John Foris of Kingswood, England.

The testament recites that the two other sons, John D. and Adolph were liberally provided for during the life of the testator. The value of the estate has been estimated at \$50,000,000.

Leeds Estate Worth \$9,000,000 Net.

New York, Dec. 30.—The report of the appraisement made on the estate of W. B. Leeds, who died in Paris on June 23 last, was filed in the Nassau county clerk's office at Mineola. The total value of the estate, according to the report, is \$14,564,261, on which there is a debt of \$5,201,260.

RUEF GETS 14 YEARS

Former Frisco Political Boss Sentenced to Penitentiary.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—Abraham Ruef, formerly political boss of San Francisco, has been sentenced to four years in the state penitentiary at San Quentin.

Sentence was pronounced by Judge Lawrence, who presided over Ruef's trial on the charge of bribing a member of the Schultz board of supervisors in the award of an overhead trolley franchise to the United Railroads.

Drafting a New Fish Bill.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 30.—The committee in charge of the fish bill of the State Sportsmen's association are met here today to draft a new bill.

County Treasurer Robbed of \$5,087. Woonsocket, S. D., Dec. 30.—County Treasurer Michael Mer was held up in the office by two masked men and robbed of \$5,087.

SERVANT TESTIFIES IN ERB MURDER CASE.

District Attorney Outlines Contentions of the State—Self Protection Contention of State.

Media, Pa., Dec. 30.—Beatrice Matust, a servant employed in the family of J. Clayton Erb, was the first witness called today in the trial of Mrs. A. Florence Erb and her sister, Mrs. Catherine Heisel, indicted jointly and separately on the charge of murdering Captain Erb at his home, Red Gables, last October.

The jury was completed and the state's case outlined last evening. In performing the latter duty District Attorney Melchior said that the commonwealth will endeavor to prove that the defendants murdered; plotted the death of Israel W. Durham's private secretary. That Mrs. Erb and her sister fired the fatal shots, he said, would be shown to the jury as the most plausible diagnosis of the crime. He ridiculed Mrs. Heisel's defense that she wrested the revolver from a man as healthy as Erb and shot him to save herself in a struggle. He declared that the commonwealth will produce testimony that Mrs. Erb had said that if she was compelled to leave Red Gables either she would shoot the captain or he would shoot her.

Self-protection is the defense of the two women, both of whom will be called to the stand to testify in their own behalf.

The jury was locked up over night under guard.

CONGRESS CRITICIZED

Scientist Says Moral Code Is Lower Than in City Councils.

Baltimore, Dec. 30.—At the tariff symposium of the Scientific convention here a paper by Dr. J. J. Orton of the Tariff Reform club of New York created a sensation by charging that members of the ways and means committee are particularly interested in the tariff schedules which they have to adjust. Dr. Orton was absent, but his paper was read by another.

Dr. Orton referred to Representative Fordney and former Representative Rhodes, alleging their interest in lumber manufacturers and quarries respectively in connection, he asserted, with their opposition to legislation favorable to the consumer in each case.

"So far as moral quality is concerned," he said, "Senator Burton's act in representing private interests before one of the government departments, for which he was sent to prison, was mild and harmless compared with the acts which are openly committed by members of congress in tariff legislation."

KNOX DRAFTS WINTHROP

Massachusetts Man to Be Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Bookman Winthrop of Massachusetts, assistant secretary of the treasury, has been offered and accepted the office of first assistant secretary of state under the incoming administration, succeeding Robert Bacon of New York, who in January next is expected to temporarily succeed Elihu Root upon the latter's retirement.

The tender was made with the consent of President-elect Taft by Senator Knox, whose selection as secretary of state was announced some days ago.

Engineers to Accompany Taft.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The president has invited the following engineers to accompany President-elect Taft, on his trip to Panama: Arthur P. Davis, chief engineer of the reclamation service, Washington; John R. Freeman, Providence, R. I.; Allen Hazen, New York city; Isham Randolph, Chicago; James Dix Schuyler, Los Angeles, Cal.; and Frederick P. Stearns, Boston.

Pope Receivers to Be Discharged.

Toledo, O., Dec. 30.—The receivers of the Pope Motor Car company will soon be discharged as the company, it is believed, will soon settle with its creditors at 100 cents on the dollar.

COOK TELLS OF LIVELY DOINGS

Which, She Alleges, Took Place at Captain Hains' Home

WHEN MRS. ANNIS CAME TO CALL.

Testimony of Most Interesting Character Marks Progress of Trial of Thornton J. Hains for Participation in Killing of William E. Annis.

Flushing, N. Y., Dec. 30.—The defense of Thornton J. Hains, indicted with his brother, Captain Peter J. Hains, Jr., for the killing of William E. Annis, called two witnesses to show certain alleged acts of Mrs. Claudia Hains, which the lawyers for the defendants claim to be affected by the insanity that he became mentally unbalanced.

A negro cook in Captain Hains' household, Minnie Ithone, related certain alleged incidents in which Mrs. Claudia Hains and William E. Annis figured at the Hains home while Captain Hains was in the Philippines. These incidents, the witness said, she told the captain on his return.

The witness said that Mrs. Hains was intoxicated at the house with Mr. Annis and that the wife of the army captain turned somersaults and Mr. Annis smacked her.

The witness said she told Captain Hains that Mrs. Hains had told her that she loved Billy Annis for five years and that she did not know what love was when she married. The cook further testified that Mrs. Hains called Annis "Papa" and her "affinity," and on one occasion Captain Hains' young son called Annis "Papa."

The witness said she told all this to Captain Hains. She said she told the captain that Annis made himself at home in the house and that he hid when some one called.



Widow of Hains' Victim. Mrs. Annis, as she also appeared on the witness stand at the trial of Thornton J. Hains, accused of being an accessory to the murder of her husband, William E. Annis, who was shot to death by Capt. Peter J. Hains.

20 KILLED IN FIGHT

Castro Adherents Resist Landing of Force From Gumboat.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 30.—There has been fighting at Macuro, on the Venezuelan coast, between adherents of former President Castro and the crew of a gunboat working in the interests of the new president, Juan Vicente Gomez.

About twenty men were killed and some fifty wounded. The Gomez party was obliged to withdraw temporarily, but later returned to resume the engagement.

Yaquia Sign Peace Treaty.

Nogales, Ariz., Dec. 30.—The long war with Yaqui Indians in Mexico, in which scores have been killed, including many Americans, has been terminated in a treaty of peace agreed upon by three Indian chiefs and 160 of their followers and the governor of the state of Sonora, Mex.

Chicago Grain Market.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Argentine advances formed the basis of a 1 cent advance in the price of wheat here today. The market closed strong at the top notch. Corn and oats also closed strong, but provisions were weak. December options closed: Wheat, 103½; corn, 57½; oats, 49½.

Pittsburg Markets.

Corn—No. 2 yellow ear, 70¢@71¢. Hay—No. 1 timothy, \$13.50@14.00. Cheese—Ohio full cream, 16¢@15¢. Butter—Prints, 34¢@34½; tubs, 33¢@34; Ohio cream, 31¢@32. Eggs—Selected, 37¢@38.

Cattle—Supply light; market steady. Choice, \$5.50@5.75; prime, \$5.30@5.40; good, \$5.10@5.25; city butchers, \$5.00; fair, \$4.75; bulls, \$2.40; good, fresh cows and springers, \$2.65; common to fair, \$2.00@2.25.

Sheep and Lambs—Supply fair and market steady. Prime wethers, \$4.75@5; good mixed, \$4.25@4.65; fair mixed, \$3.50@4; culls and common, \$2.25@2.50; lambs, \$5.00@5.35; yearlings, \$3.50@3.80; heavy and thin calves, \$4.50@5.50.

Hogs—Receipts of hogs 10 double decks; market active and prices ruled 15 cents higher. Prime heavy hogs and mediums, \$6.35@6.40; heavy Yorkers, \$6.30@6.40; light Yorkers, \$6.80@7.00; pigs, \$5.00@5.70; roughs, \$4.50@5.00.

THE GREWER MEDICAL INSTITUTE.



The Hagan Block, 25 E. Main St., Uniontown, Pa.

Dr. J. E. Hargess, Physician and Surgeon in charge.
Dr. E. Grever, Consulting Physician and Surgeon.
Located in Uniontown for the past three years.

Dr. E. Grever, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and one of the leading specialists of the State, is now permanently located at the above address, where he treats all chronic diseases of Men, Women and Children.

He makes a specialty of all forms of Nervous Diseases, Blind Poison, Secret Diseases, Epileptic Fits, Convulsions, Myasthenia, St. Vitus Dance, Wakefulness. Cured under guarantee.

Lost Manhood Restored.

Weakness of Young Men Cured, and All Private Diseases.

Varicose, Hydrocele, and Rupture promptly cured without pain and no detention from business.

He cures the worst cases of Nervous Prostration, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Old Sores, Blood Poison, and all diseases of the Skin, Hair, Nose, Throat, Heart, Lungs, Stomach, Liver, Kidneys and Bladder.

Fitching Piles, Fistula, Stricture, Tumors, Cancers and Glands cured without cutting.

Special attention paid to the treatment of St. Vitus Dance.

He will forfeit the sum of \$5,000 for any case of

FITS or EPILEPTIC CONVULSIONS That He Cannot Cure.

Consultation in English and German strictly confidential. Write if you need call.

Office hours: From 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. On Sundays from 12 to 4 P. M. only.

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Capital - - - \$50,000.00
Surplus - - - \$105,000.00
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J. C. COBE, Second Vice President.

K. D. HENRY, Asst. Cashier and Teller.

B. J. J. MORNINGSTAR, Bookkeeper.

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Receives deposits, payable on demand, without notice. Issues drafts and money orders on all parts in Europe and transacts a general banking business. Your account solicited.

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Capital - - - \$50,000.00
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STEAMSHIP TICKETS SOLD TO AND FROM EUROPE.

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Time To Think Of 1909.

Time to say to yourself: Here's where I start right.
Time to save a part of what you make.
Time to provide for sickness, accident, old age.
Time to open that savings account you've talked of for so long.
Time to realize that this bank, with 32 years of success back of it, is the place for your account.

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4 per cent, Compound Interest
Paid on Savings
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The Yough National Bank

CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

A security that cannot be questioned, a location that is central, and a courtesy and accommodation that is uniform are offered you as a depositor of this bank.

Call to see us.

Not the Result of Chance.

Financial success is not the result of chance. It comes by the faithful observance of economy, persistent saving and wise investment.

An account with the Colonial National Bank will help you acquire a competence.

4% Interest paid on Savings Accounts of \$1 and up, and on Certificates of Deposit.

Home Savings Banks Free to Depositors.

Colonial National Bank,

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Capital \$100,000.00. Surplus and Profits Over \$35,000.00.

Will You Succeed or Fail?

Youth a mistake;
Manhood a struggle;
Old age a regret!

How many lives can be summed up in these ten words. How many failures can be traced to the mistakes of those who neglected to save money in youth to meet the added responsibilities of manhood and the burdens of old age.

BEGIN SAVING NOW.

ONE DOLLAR

OR MORE WILL START A BANK ACCOUNT.

Second National Bank,

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FOUR percent and safety is better for savings than ten percent promised and the possible loss of principal. The one is an investment; the other speculation—and speculation is never safe.

This bank pays 4% on savings in any amount from \$1 up.

THE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK,

Pittsburg Street, CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

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A Strong Progressive Bank, Equipped

to Give You Efficient Service.

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Capital & Surplus, \$425,000.00. 4% Paid on Total Resources \$1,000,000.00. A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

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The Mystery of The Yellow Room

By GASTON LEROUX

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CHAPTER XXV.

In Which Joseph Rouletabille Is Awaited With Impatience.

ON the 15th of January—that is to say, two months and a half after the tragic events I have narrated, the Epique prize, as the first column of the front page of the following sensational article:

"The Seine-et-Oise jury is summoned today to give its verdict on one of the most mysterious affairs in the annals of crime. There never has been a case with so many obscure, inexplicable and inexplicable points. And yet the prosecution has not hesitated to put into the prisoner's dock a man who is respected, esteemed and loved by all who knew him—a young servant, M. Robert Darzac. There is no doubt in the mind of anybody that could the victim speak she would claim from the jurors of Seine-et-Oise the man she wishes to make her husband and whom the prosecution would send to the scaffold. It is to be hoped that Mlle. Stangerson will shortly recover her reason, which has been temporarily unbalanced by the horrible mystery at the Glandier. The question before the jury is the one we propose to deal with this very day.

"We have decided not to permit twelve worthy men to commit a disgraceful miscarriage of justice. Up to now everything has gone against M. Robert Darzac in the magnificent inquiry. Today, however, we are going to defend him before the jury, and we are going to bring to the witness stand a light that will illumine the whole mystery of the Glandier, for we possess the truth.

"When attention was first drawn to the Glandier case our youthful reporter, Joseph Rouletabille, was on the spot and installed in the chateau when every other representative of the press and every other member of the jury had been denied admission. He worked side by side with Frederic Larsan. He was amazed and terrified at the grave mistake the celebrated detective was about to make.

"France must know—the whole world must know—that on the very evening on which M. Darzac was arrested, young Rouletabille entered our editorial office and informed us that he was about to go on a journey. 'How long I shall be away,' he said, 'I cannot say; perhaps a month, perhaps two, perhaps three. Perhaps I may never return. Here is a letter. If I am not back on the day on which M. Darzac is to appear before the assize court, have this letter opened and read to the court after all the witnesses have been heard. Arrange it with M. Darzac's counsel, M. Darzac is innocent. In this letter is written the name of the murderer, and—that is all I have to say. I am leaving to get my proofs for the irrefutable evidence of the murderer's guilt. Our reporter departed. For a long time we were without news from him. But a week ago a stranger called upon our manager and said: 'Act in accordance with the instructions of Joseph Rouletabille if it becomes necessary to do so.' The letter left by him holds the truth. The gentleman who brought us this message would not give us his name.

"Today, the 15th of January, is the day of the trial. Joseph Rouletabille has not returned. It may be we shall never see him again. The press also counts its heroes, its martyrs to duty. It may be he is no longer living. We shall know how to avenge him. Our manager will this afternoon be at the court of assize at Versailles with the letter—the letter containing the name of the murderer."

Those Christians who flocked to the assize court at Versailles to be present at the trial of what was known as the "mystery of the yellow room" will certainly remember the terrible crush in the courtroom.

The trial itself was presided over by M. de Boczon, a judge filled with the prejudice of his class, but a man honest at heart. The witnesses had been called. I was there, of course, as were all who had in any way been in touch with the mysteries of the Glandier. We were lucky enough to be called early in the trial, so that I was then able to watch and be present at almost the whole of the proceedings.

The court was so crowded that many lawyers were compelled to find seats on the steps. Behind the bench of justices were representatives from other benches. M. Robert Darzac stood in the prisoner's dock between policemen, tall, handsome and calm. A murmur of admiration rather than of compassion greeted his appearance. He looked forward toward his counsel, Maître Henri Robert, who, assisted by his chief secretary, Maître André Hesse, was busily turning over the folios of his brief.

Many expected that M. Stangerson after giving his evidence would have looked over to the prisoner and shaken hands with him, but he left the court without another word. It was remarked that the jurors appeared to be deeply interested in a rapid conversation which the manager of the Epique was having with Maître Henri Robert. The manager later sat down in the front row of the public seats. Some were surprised that he was not asked to remain with the other witnesses in the room reserved for them.

The reading of the indictment was got through, as it always is, without any incident. I shall not here report the long examination to which M. Darzac was subjected. He answered all the questions quickly and easily. His silence as to the important matters of which we know was read against him. It would seem as if this reticence would be fatal for him. He resented the president's reproaches. He was told that his silence might mean death.

"Very well," he said. "I will submit to it, but I am innocent."

With that splendid ability which has made his name Maître Robert took advantage of the incident and tried to show that it brought out in noble relief his client's character, for only heroic natures could remain silent for moral reasons in face of such a danger. The eminent advocate, however, only succeeded in assuring those who were already assured of Darzac's innocence. At the adjournment Rouletabille had not yet arrived. Every time a door opened all eyes turned toward it and back to the manager of the Epique, who sat impassive in his place. When he once was feeling in his pocket a loud murmur of expectation followed. The letter!

When the trial was resumed Maître Henri Robert questioned Daddy Mathieu as to his complicity in the death of the keeper. His wife was also brought in and was confronted by her husband. She burst into tears and confessed that she had been the keeper's sweetheart and that her husband had suspected it. She again, however, affirmed that he had had nothing to do with the murder of her lover. Maître Henri Robert thereupon asked the court to hear Frederic Larsan on this point.

"In a short conversation which I had with Frederic Larsan during the adjournment," declared the advocate, "he has made me understand that the death of the keeper may have been brought about otherwise than by the hand of Mathieu. It will be interesting to hear Frederic Larsan's theory."

Frederic Larsan was brought in. His explanation was quite clear. "I saw no necessity," he said, "for bringing Mathieu in this. I have told M. de Boczon that the man's threats had biased the examining magistrate against him. To me the attempt to murder mademoiselle and the death of the keeper are the work of one and the same person. Mlle. Stangerson's assistant, flying through the court, was fired on. It was thought he was struck, perhaps killed. As a matter of fact, he only stumbled at the moment of his disappearance behind the corner of the right wing of the chateau. There he encountered the keeper, who no doubt tried to seize him. The murderer had in his hand the knife with which he had stabbed Mlle. Stangerson, and with this he killed the keeper."

This very simple explanation appeared at once plausible and satisfying. A murmur of approbation was heard. "And the murderer? What became of him?" asked the president.

"He was evidently hidden in an obscure corner at the end of the court. After the people had left the court, carrying with them the body of the keeper, the murderer quietly made his escape."

"The words had scarcely left Larsan's mouth when from the back of the court came a youthful voice: 'I agree with Frederic Larsan as to the death of the keeper, but I do not agree with him as to the way the murderer escaped!'

Everybody turned around, astonished. The clerk of the court sprang toward the speaker, calling for silence, and the president angrily ordered the intruder to be immediately expelled. The same clear voice, however, was again heard:

"It is I, M. President—Joseph Rouletabille."

CHAPTER XXVI.

In Which Joseph Rouletabille Appears in All His Glory.

His excitement was extreme. Crises from fainting women were to be heard amid the extraordinary bustle and stir. The "majesty of the law" was utterly forgotten. The president tried in vain to make himself heard. Rouletabille made his way forward with difficulty, but by dint of much shouting reached his manager and greeted him cordially. He was dressed exactly as on the day he left me, even to the utter over of his arm. Turning to the president, he said:

"I beg your pardon, M. President, but I have only just arrived from America. The steamer was late. My name is Joseph Rouletabille."

The silence which followed his step broke into the witness box was broken by laughter when his words were heard. Everybody seemed relieved and glad to find him there, as if in the expectation of hearing the truth at last.

But the president was extremely incensed. "So you are Joseph Rouletabille?" he replied. "Well, young man, I'll teach you what comes of making a farce of justice. By virtue of my discretionary power I hold you at the court's disposition. Take him away!"

Maître Henri Robert intervened. He began by apologizing for the young man, who, he said, was moved only by the best intentions. He made the president understand that the evidence of a witness who had slept at the Glandier during the whole of that eventful week could not be omitted, and the present witness, moreover, had come to name the real murderer.

"Are you going to tell us who the murderer was?" asked the president, somewhat convinced, though still skeptical.

"I have come for that purpose, M. President," replied Rouletabille. An attempt at applause was silenced by the usher.

"Joseph Rouletabille," said Maître Henri Robert, "has not been regularly subpoenaed as a witness, but I hope, M. President, you will examine him in virtue of your discretionary powers."

A loud drop could have been heard. Rouletabille stood silent, looking sympathetically at Darzac, who for the first time since the opening of the trial showed himself agitated.

"Well," cried the president, "we wait for the name of the murderer."

Rouletabille, feeling in his waistcoat pocket, drew his watch and, looking at it, said:

"M. President, I cannot name the murderer before half past 6 o'clock!"

Loud murmurs of disappointment filled the room. Some of the lawyers were heard to say, "It's making fun of us!"

The president in a stern voice said: "This joke has gone far enough. You may retire, monsieur, into the witness' room. I hold you at our disposition."

Rouletabille protested. "I assure you, M. President," he cried in his sharp, clear voice, "that when I do name the murderer you will understand why I could not speak before half past 6. I assert this on my honor. I can, however, give you now some explanation of the murder of the keeper, M. Frederic Larsan, who has seen me at work at the Glandier, can tell you with what care I studied this case. I found myself compelled to differ with him in arresting M. Robert Darzac, who is innocent. M. Larsan knows of my good faith and knows that some importance may be attached to my discoveries, which have often corroborated his own."

Frederic Larsan said: "M. President, it will be interesting to hear M. Joseph Rouletabille, especially as he differs from me. We agree that the murderer of the keeper was the assassin of Mlle. Stangerson, but as we are not agreed as to how the murderer escaped I am curious to hear M. Rouletabille's explanation."

"I have no doubt you are," said my friend.

General laughter followed this remark. The president angrily declared that if it was repeated he would have the court cleared.

"Now, young man," said the president, "you have heard M. Frederic Larsan. How did the murderer get away from the court?"

Rouletabille looked at Mme. Mathieu, who smiled back at him sadly.

"Since Mme. Mathieu," he said, "has freely admitted her affair with the keeper—"

"Why, it's the boy!" exclaimed Daddy Mathieu.

"Remove that man!" ordered the president.

Mathieu was removed from the court. Rouletabille went on: "Since she has made this confession I am free to tell you that she often met the keeper at night on the first floor of the donjon in the room which was once an oratory. Mme. Mathieu went to the chateau that night covered in a large black shawl, which served also as a disguise. This was the phantom that disturbed Daddy Jacques. She knew how to imitate the meowing of Mother Agnes's cat, and she would make the cries to advise the keeper of her presence."

"Previous to the tragedy in the donjon together, I learned these facts from my examination of the footprints in the court the next morning. Bernier, the concierge, whom I had questioned behind the donjon, as he will explain himself—could not see what passed in the court. He did not reach the court until he heard the revolver shots, and then he fled. When the woman parted from the man she went toward the open gate of the court, while he returned to his room."

"He had almost reached the door when the revolvers rang out. He had just reached the corner when a shadowy figure appeared. He was surrounded by Monsieur Bernier, Mathieu, surprised by the revolver shots and by the entrance of people into the court, crouched in the darkness. The court is a large one, and, being near the gate, she might easily have passed out unseen. But she remained and saw the body being carried away. In great agony of mind she went to her lover on the stairs lit by Daddy Jacques's lantern. She then fled, and Daddy Jacques joined her."

"That same night before the murder Daddy Jacques had been awakened by the cat's cry and, looking through his window, had seen the black phantom. Justly dressing himself, he went out and recognized her."

He is an old friend of Mme. Mathieu, and when she saw him she begged his assistance. Daddy Jacques took pity on her and accompanied her through the oak grove out of the park, past the border of the lake to the road to Epiphy. From there it was but a very short distance to her home.

"Daddy Jacques returned to the chateau, and, seeing how important it was for Mme. Mathieu's presence at the chateau to remain unknown, he had done all he could to hide it. I appeal to M. Larsan, who saw me next morning, examine the two sets of footprints."

Here Rouletabille, turning toward Mme. Mathieu, with a bow, said: "The footprints of madame bear a strange resemblance to the footprints of the murderer."

Mme. Mathieu trembled and looked at him with wide eyes as if in wonder at what he would say next.

"Madame has a shapely foot, long and rather large for a woman. The imprint, with its pointed toe, is very like that of the murderer's."

A movement in the court was repressed by Rouletabille. He held their attention at once.

"I hasten to add," he went on, "that I attach no importance to this. Outward signs like these are often liable to lead us into error if we do not reason rightly. M. Robert Darzac's footprints are also like the murderer's, and yet he is not the murderer."

The president, turning to Mme. Mathieu, asked:

"Is that in accordance with what you know occurred?"

"Yes, M. President," she replied; "it is as if M. Rouletabille had been behind us."

"Did you see the murderer running toward the end of the right wing?"

"Yes, as clearly as I saw them afterward carrying the keeper's body."

"What became of the murderer? You were in the court and could easily have seen?"

"M. President, I cannot name the murderer before half past 6 o'clock!"

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"That same night before the murder Daddy Jacques had been awakened by the cat's cry and, looking through his window, had seen the black phantom. Justly dressing himself, he went out and recognized her."

I quietly made my way through the crowd and left the court almost at the same time as Rouletabille. He greeted me heartily and looked happy.

"I'll not ask you, my dear fellow," I said, smiling, "what you've been doing, because I'm no doubt you'll say you can't tell me until after half past 6."

"No, my dear friend, I'll tell you right now why I went to America. I went in search of the name of the other half of the murderer."

"Exactly! When we last left the Glandier, I knew there were two halves to the murderer and the name of only one of them. I went to America for the name of the other half."

I was too puzzled to answer. Just then we entered the witness room, and Rouletabille was immediately surrounded. He showed himself very friendly to all except Arthur Range,

to whom he exhibited a marked "Zou-ness" of manner. Frederic Larsan came in also. Rouletabille went up and shook him heartily by the hand. His manner toward the detective showed that he had got the better of the policeman. Larsan smiled and asked him what he had been doing in America. Rouletabille began by telling him some anecdotes of his voyage. They then turned aside together, apparently with the object of speaking confidentially.

On the stroke of half past 6 Joseph Rouletabille was again brought in. It is impossible for me to picture the house excitement which appeared on every face as he made his way to the bar. Darzac rose to his feet, faintly pale.

The president, addressing Rouletabille, said gravely:

"I will not ask you to take the oath, because you have not been regularly summoned, but I trust there is no need to urge upon you the gravity of the statement you are about to make."

Rouletabille looked at the president quite calmly and steadily in the face and replied:

"Yes, monsieur."

"At your last appearance here," said the president, "we had arrived at the point where you were to tell us how the murderer escaped and also his name. Now, M. Rouletabille, we await your explanation."

"Very well, monsieur," began my friend amid a profound silence. "I had explained how it was impossible for the murderer to get away without being seen. And yet he was there with us in the court."

"And you did not see him? At least that is what the prosecution declares."

"No! We all of us saw him, M. President," cried Rouletabille.

"Then why was he not arrested?"

"Because no one besides myself knew that he was the murderer. It would have spoiled any plans to have had him arrested, and I had then no

and has not been seen since."

"That is my proof!" cried Rouletabille triumphantly.

"Explain, yourself," demanded the president.

"My proof is Larsan's flight," said the young reporter. "He will not come back. You will see no more of Frederic Larsan."

"Unless you are playing with the court, monsieur, why did you not accuse him when he was present? If would then have answered you."

"He could give no other answer than the one he has now given by his flight."

"We cannot believe that Larsan has fled. There was no reason for his doing so. Did he know you'd make this charge?"

"He did. I told him I would."

"Do you mean to say that knowing Larsan was the murderer you gave him the opportunity to escape?"

"Yes, M. President, I did," replied Rouletabille proudly. "I am not a policeman. I am a journalist, and my business is not to arrest people. My business is in the service of truth and is not that of an executioner. If you are just, monsieur, you will see that I am right. You can now understand why I refrained until this hour to divulge the name. I gave Larsan time to reach the 4-17 train for Paris, where he would know where to hide himself and leave no traces. You will not find Frederic Larsan," declared Rouletabille, fixing his eyes on M. Robert Darzac. "He is too cunning. He is a man who has always escaped you and whom you have long searched for in vain. If he did not succeed in outwitting me he can yet easily outwit any police. This man, who four years ago introduced himself to the police and became celebrated as Frederic Larsan, is notorious and well known to crime. Frederic Larsan, M. President, is Baltimore."

"Baltimore?" cried the president.

"Baltimore?" exclaimed Robert Darzac, springing to his feet. "Baltimore! It was true, then?"

"Ah, M. Darzac, you don't think I am mad now?" cried Rouletabille.

Baltimore! Baltimore! No other word could be heard in the courtroom. The president adjourned the hearing.

Those of my readers who may not have heard of Baltimore will wonder at the excitement the name caused. And yet the doings of this remarkable criminal form the subject matter of the most dramatic narratives of the newspapers and criminal records of the past twenty years. It had been reported that he was dead and thus had eluded the police as he had eluded them throughout the whole of his career.

Baltimore was the best specimen of the high class "gentleman swindler." He was an adept at sleight of hand tricks, and no holder or more ruthless crook ever lived. He was received in the best society and was a member of some of the most exclusive clubs. On many of his deprecatory expeditions he had not hesitated to use the knife and the gun upon his victims. No difficulty stopped him, and no "operation" was too dangerous. He had been caught, but escaped on the very morning of his trial by throwing pepper into the eyes of the guards who were conducting him to court.

He left France later to "work" America. The police there succeeded in once capturing him, but the extraordinary man escaped the next day. It would need a volume to recount the adventures of this master criminal. And yet this was the man Rouletabille had allowed to get away! Knowing all about him and who he was, he afforded the criminal an opportunity for another laugh at the society he had defied! I could not help admiring the bold stroke of the young journalist, because I felt certain his motive had been to protect Mlle. Stangerson. No doubt M. Darzac of an enemy at the same time.

The crowd had barely recovered from the effect of the astonishing revelation when the hearing was resumed. The question in everybody's mind was, Admitting that Larsan was the murderer, how did he get out of the yellow room?

Rouletabille was immediately called to the bar and his examination continued.

"You have told us," said the president, "that it was impossible to escape from the end of the court. Since Larsan was leaning out of his window, he had left the court. How did he do that?"

"He escaped by a most unusual way. He climbed the wall, sprang on to the terrace and while we were engaged with the keeper's body reached the gallery by the window. He then had little else to do than to open the window, get in and call out to us, as if he had just come from his own room. To a man of Baltimore's strength all that was mere child's play. And here, monsieur, is the proof of what I say."

Rouletabille drew from his pocket a small packet, from which he produced a strong iron peg.

"This, monsieur," he said, "is a spike which perfectly fits a hole still to be seen in the cornice supporting the terrace. Larsan, who hung out and prepared for everything in case of any emergency, had fixed this spike into the cornice. All he had to do to make his escape good was to plant one foot on a stone which is placed at the corner of the chateau, another on this support, one hand on the cornice of the keeper's door and the other on the terrace, and Larsan was clear of the ground. The rest was easy. His escape after dinner, as if he had been drunk, was made before. He was not dragged. But he did drag me. Of course he had to make it appear as if he also had been dragged so that no suspicion should fall on him for my condition. If I had not been thus overpowered Larsan would never have entered Mlle. Stangerson's chamber that night and the attack on her would not have taken place."

A group came from Darzac, who appeared to be unable to control his surprise. He left at about 4 o'clock

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"You can understand," added Rouletabille, "that Larsan would feel himself hampered from the fact that my room was so close to his and from a suspicion that I would be on the watch that night. Naturally he could not for a moment believe that I suspected him. But I might see him leaving his room when he was about to go to Mlle. Stangerson. He waited till I was asleep and my friend Salicrue was busy trying to rouse me. Ten minutes after that mademoiselle was calling out 'Murder!'

"How did you come to suspect Larsan?" asked the president.

"My pure reason pointed to him. That was why I watched him. But I did not foresee the dragging. He is very cunning. Yes, my pure reason pointed to him, but I required tangible proof so that my eyes could see him as my pure reason saw him. The day following the incident of the 'inexplicable gallery' I felt myself losing control of it. I had allowed myself to be diverted by fallacious evidence, but I recovered and again took hold of the right end. I satisfied myself that the murderer could not have left the gallery, either naturally or supernaturally. I narrowed the field of consideration to that small circle, so to speak. The murderer could not be outside that circle. Now, who were in it? There was, first, the murderer. Then there were Daddy Jacques, M. Stangerson, Frederic Larsan, and myself. Five persons in all, counting in the murderer. And yet in the gallery there were but four. Now, since it had been demonstrated to me that the fifth could not have escaped, it was evident that one of the four present in the gallery must be a double—he must be himself and the murderer also. Why had I not seen this before? Simply because the phenomenon of the double personality had not occurred before in this inquiry."

"Now, who of the four persons in the gallery was both that person and the assassin? I went over in my mind what I had seen. I had seen at one and the same time M. Stangerson and the murderer, Daddy Jacques and the murderer, myself and the murderer, so that the murderer, then, could not be either M. Stangerson, Daddy Jacques or myself. Had I seen Frederic Larsan and the murderer at the same time? No. Two seconds had passed, during which I lost sight of the murderer, for, as I have noted in my papers, he arrived two seconds before M. Stangerson, Daddy Jacques and myself at the meeting point of the two galleries. That would have given Larsan time to go through the 'off turning' gallery, snatch off his false beard, return and hurry with us as if, like us, in pursuit of the murderer. I was sure now I had got hold of the right end in my reasoning. With Frederic Larsan was now always associated in my mind the personality of the unknown of whom I was in pursuit—the murderer, in other words."

"That revelation stagger

